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Courtesy FIDF

Friends of the Israel Defense Forces Legacy group campers and staff were welcomed by FIDF staff and host families at Young Israel of Woodmere on Aug. 16.

## First FIDF Legacy group for bereaved kids visits Woodmere

By **MELISSA BERMAN**

[mberman@liherald.com](mailto:mberman@liherald.com)

In an effort to turn tragedy into relief, 24 Israeli children who lost fathers or siblings in the war in Gaza spent a week at a summer camp in Pennsylvania, followed by a weekend with host families in Woodmere Aug. 16-18.

The Friends of the Israel Defense Forces, which is based in New York City, hosted its first-ever Legacy group for bereaved shomer Shabbos — Sabbath observing — children in Woodmere. The eight counselors who accompanied them are former campers in the FIDF Legacy Camp program who are currently serving in the IDF. Camp Stone, in

Sugar Grove, Pennsylvania, is a Jewish camp that encourages aliyah, or emigration to Israel.

“When they were thinking about which community to bring these kids for Shabbos, the Five Towns was a perfect fit,” Stephanie Feit, the FIDF’s associate director for Long Island, said. The organization’s Greater Five Towns South Shore chapter planned and organized the weekend for the children.

Saritte Silvera, Young Israel of Woodmere’s liaison with FIDF, helped build a relationship between them and plan a special experience for the children.

“I just thought it was a way to give back and help fellow Jewish people,” Silvera said.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 9

## BZA reserves decision on Chabad plan

By **PARKER SCHUG**

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The controversy over what the Chabad of the Beaches plans to do with its property on Park Street in Atlantic Beach remained unresolved last week, when the village Board of Zoning Appeals reserved decision on the requested variances.

At a hearing on Aug. 22, Rabbi Eli Goodman, of Chabad of the Beaches, in Long Beach; attorney William Bonesso, representing the Chabad; Barry Nelson, of Nelson Realty Group; and Wayne Muller, of R&M Engineering, presented plans and studies for a religious community center with an accessory café at 2025 Park St.

“We realized that there was a need to service the people that liked the Chabad way of education and outreach,” Goodman said, “and that we needed to have a place over here that the people in Atlantic Beach could call home.”

The Chabad purchased the land in 2021, and a legal battle

ensued when the village tried to claim the site by eminent domain. A federal court sided with the Chabad, issuing an injunction against the claim the following year. Atlantic Beach has since agreed to pay the Chabad \$400,000 over four years to settle the Chabad’s lawsuit against the village.

Village residents filled the seats and stood along the walls at last week’s hearing, and about 10 of them voiced their opposition to the Chabad’s plan.

**I feel in this room a lack of trust as to what the real purpose of this is.**

**GERRY KESTENBAUM**  
Atlantic Beach

Nelson and Goodman presented printed renderings to the board, showing a building that would require variances and special exceptions

related to parking, signage, and the repurposing of the former Capital One Bank property’s drive-through window to make a kosher food drive-through.

Atlantic Beach resident Gerry Kestenbaum said he supported the Chabad, but appeared apprehensive about the drive-through. “I feel in this room a lack of trust as to what

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6





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# Woodmere Troop 20 welcomes two new Eagle Scouts

By MELISSA BERMAN

mberman@liherald.com

Aedan Corless and Sebastian Pampalone, both graduates of Hewlett High School, restored parts of the stage at Trinity St Johns Parish Hall in Hewlett for their Eagle Scout Project to earn the highest rank in boy scouting.

Boy Scout Troop 20 members Corless and Pampalone had their Eagle Court of Honor at the Parish Hall, where the troop meets every week, on Aug. 25. Where they received their Eagle pin, badge and insignia to add to their uniform.

Troop 20 Scoutmaster Eugene Corless explained the Eagle Scout qualifications.

"In order to obtain the rank of eagle, you need to earn a total of 21 merit badges, 14 of which are eagle required and you need to complete seven ranks," Corless said. "The other component is completing a community service project."

Each rank can take over a year to complete, according to Corless. The ranks are Scout, Tenderfoot, Second class, First Class, Star, Life and Eagle.

"It's a combination of specific training that you provide to others and things that you learn yourself, scouting skills and life skills," Corless said.

As a scoutmaster, Corless helps to provide a supportive environment that enables the scouts to achieve the ranks. He ran multiple camping nights and community services projects to earn badges. The achievements are all individually



Photos courtesy Eugene Corless

**Aedan Corless, left and Sebastian Pampalone reciting the Eagle Scout oath as part of the Court of Honor ceremony on Sunday.**

done while being apart of a troop.

"My job is to help shape those Eagle Scout Project ideas so that they foster a combination of leadership and I help troubleshoot ideas or offer suggestions to help guide them as they propose and complete their project," Corless said.

Both Corless, the scoutmaster's son, and Pampalone had to attend meetings and give presentations with the church committee at Trinity St Johns in order for their projects to be approved.

The troop holds its weekly meetings at the church and Pampalone noticed that the stage was rundown.

"I feel like it needed that little extra step to make it really beautiful," he said.

Pampalone also replaced some floorboards, which was not in the original plan. It took three days of manual labor on the stage, and a total of five months for his to complete the work.

Pampalone received help from his father, and Phil Nickerson, a family-friend contractor to sand down the stage and put on the wax coating, as well as fellow scouts.

"They worked super hard in helping me complete the project, it's a delegation project and it's not really a hands-on project for me," Pampalone said. "As you are becoming an Eagle, you have to delegate certain jobs to people, it's a leadership project."

Pampalone set his sights on the Eagle rank since he became a scout. His favorite memory from the project was when Civil Rights activist, Ruby Bridges visited the church and using the refurbished stage.

Aedan's project was to paint a mural on the stage wall and put install new curtains.

"I chose to do this because a lot of people use the church, a lot of elderly people and people who live in the community a long time should see it as a stage for shows and performances and it was something that needed to be done," Aedan said.

It took him six months, including the time that the idea as proposed and had to be approved. His father's artistic knowledge helped as well as troop parents and scouts.

"The scouts helped me prep for the project and paint, since the Eagle Scout is not supposed to do the manual labor," Aedan said. "The prepped and painted the walls, cleaned the area for the mural all under my leadership."

Doing the project brought Aedan full circle, remembering when he helped older scouts with their Eagle projects, he said, adding that he loved painting the mural with his dad.

"Their scouting journey has been really great to see, I'm just really proud of them," Eugene Corless said. "It was really fitting that their projects ended up duck tailing together and contributing to where we meet every week as a unit."

# LYCC kosher restaurant closure sparks legal battle

By PARKER SCHUG

pschug@liherald.com

The closing of MG Craft Kitchen has sparked much more than just upset residents, it has become a federal case,

MG Craft Kitchen, LLC., Moshe Glenn, managing member of MG Craft Kitchen and The Saffron Culinary, Inc., a Lawrence Yacht & County Club caterer, filed a complaint against Lawrence village, all members of its board and Village Administrator Gerry Castro in the Eastern District of New York, on Aug. 22.

"In shutting down MG Craft's restaurant the Village breached its contractual obligations to MG Craft," Abraham David, representing the plaintiffs, wrote in an Aug. 22 email. "The manner in which it acted violated our clients' constitutional rights."

On Aug. 6, the village sent residents an email informing them of a lack of insurance declarations and endorsements submitted by MG Craft Kitchen, found while reviewing the contracts. The LYCC-based kosher restaurant was sent a non-compliance notice, requesting the necessary documents and MG Craft Kitchen responded by sending the them to the village's insurance consultant for review, some of which were insufficient, and other coverage that did not exist, the village wrote.

On July 18, Lawrence gave the restaurant 48 hours to produce evidence of the necessary coverage, but received no response. On Aug. 2, the village issued



Parker Schug/Herald

**The Lawrence village board, above, is in litigation with MG Craft Kitchen, LLC, Moshe Glenn, managing member of MG Craft Kitchen and The Saffron Culinary, Inc. who have filed a complaint against the village after the closing of the kosher restaurant, servicing the Lawrence Yacht and Country Club.**

MG Craft Kitchen a cease-and-desist order, which was ignored, forcing the village to close the restaurant, Castro wrote.

When the village emailed the letter to residents on Aug. 6, it had received neither proof of the required insurance nor evidence of workers compensation and state disability coverage, Castro added.

In the Aug. 22 complaint, attorney Shalom Wohlgerlinter and David wrote that in April 2024, Glenn signed a seven-year agreement with the previous Lawrence administration in Lawrence, to operate in the facility. The current administration was unhappy with the agreement and looking for a reason to terminate it, Wohlgerlinter and David said.

Immediately after the June election Deputy Mayor Tammy Roz, complained to Glenn, regarding restaurant setup, napkins on the floor and a leaking air condi-

tioner, which was the responsibility of the LYCC, and when Glenn asked for all future complaints in writing, it sparked a campaign to terminate Glenn's agreement, Wohlgerlinter and David said.

"I have never actually had a face to face conversation with him and that just falsifies his claims," Roz wrote in an email to the Herald. "However, even with all of that, we as a village are still trying to work out an agreement with him. We have dedicated countless hours and days to reach a settlement agreement."

After receiving the July 18 letter from the village, Glenn complied with all requests and made immediate efforts to rectify the coverage that proved to be insufficient, but was not allowed the 30-day grace period, outlined in the contract, Wohlgerlinter and David said.

The attorneys said the village ended

Saffron Culinary's agreement without explanation, despite its expiration in 2019, but with the permission to operate on a monthly basis.

Wohlgerlinter and David also said village officials trespassed and broke into MG Craft Kitchen padlocking it from inside.

On Aug. 16, in a Zoom meeting, the village told Glenn he must issue a public apology to the village, praising village officials, before they were allowed to reopen, if at all, Wohlgerlinter and David said.

The complaint outlines nine legal issues in which MG Craft Kitchen, LLC, Moshe Glenn, and The Saffron Culinary, Inc. The companies are asking for up to \$3 million in damages.

On Aug. 23, the village sent an email to residents, that stated they have been working in good faith with MG Craft Kitchen to resolve the issues, as well as dealing with threatening social media attacks related to the issue.

"The Village Leadership simply wanted the insurance deficiencies corrected, noise due to late night outdoor dining and odors emanating from the location addressed and fixed, as well as offering Friday golfers the opportunity to buy a kosher sandwich during their round. To be clear, the changes the Village requested did not raise rent, restrict operating hours or the length of the licensing agreement," Castro wrote in the email.

*Have an opinion on the catering controversy? Send letter to jbessen@liherald.com.*





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At the time, some of the best estate planning lawyers were in Florida. Perhaps you can guess why. In any event, off I went to Florida to train as an estate planning lawyer and, upon returning, closed the litigation practice and founded Ettinger Law Firm in April 1991, to keep people just like you, dear reader, out of probate court.

The reason I was so excited about the living trust, and continue to be so to this day, is the concept of taking back control from the courts and government and giving it back to you and your family. After all, who doesn't want control over their affairs?

When you go to court, who's in charge? The judge, right? Now tell me, does the

judge always act in your best interest? Does the judge ever make a mistake? And when the judge says jump, you know what the answer is!

Not only do you pay considerably for this privilege, but it can take many months and often years to complete the probate court proceeding. Meantime, houses cannot be sold, bank accounts accessed, or investment portfolios managed – at least without the judge's permission which involves additional time and resources to request. Of course, that permission may be denied as well.

With a living trust, your trustee (formerly your "executor" under the will) may act immediately upon death to sell the house, pay the bills and handle the investments – no permission required! An additional benefit is, in the event you become unable to handle your affairs later in life, your trustee may take over by simply getting a letter from your doctor showing you are unable to handle your legal and financial affairs. Essentially then, a living trust gives you back the control you may have thought you had.

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Photos courtesy Alyssa Lark

Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman, right, presented Peninsula Public Library Director Carolynn Matulewicz and PPL Trustee Samuel Francis with a check for over \$30,000, a county grant.

## Peninsula Public Library looks to the future with county grant

By PARKER SCHUG

[pschug@liherald.com](mailto:pschug@liherald.com)

Peninsula Public Library is making improvements to the facility, thanks to an American Rescue Plan Act grant, which came available post-Covid.

Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman and Legislator Howard Kopel visited the Lawrence library to present a check of over \$30,000 to library Director Carolynn Matulewicz and library board trustee Samuel Francis.

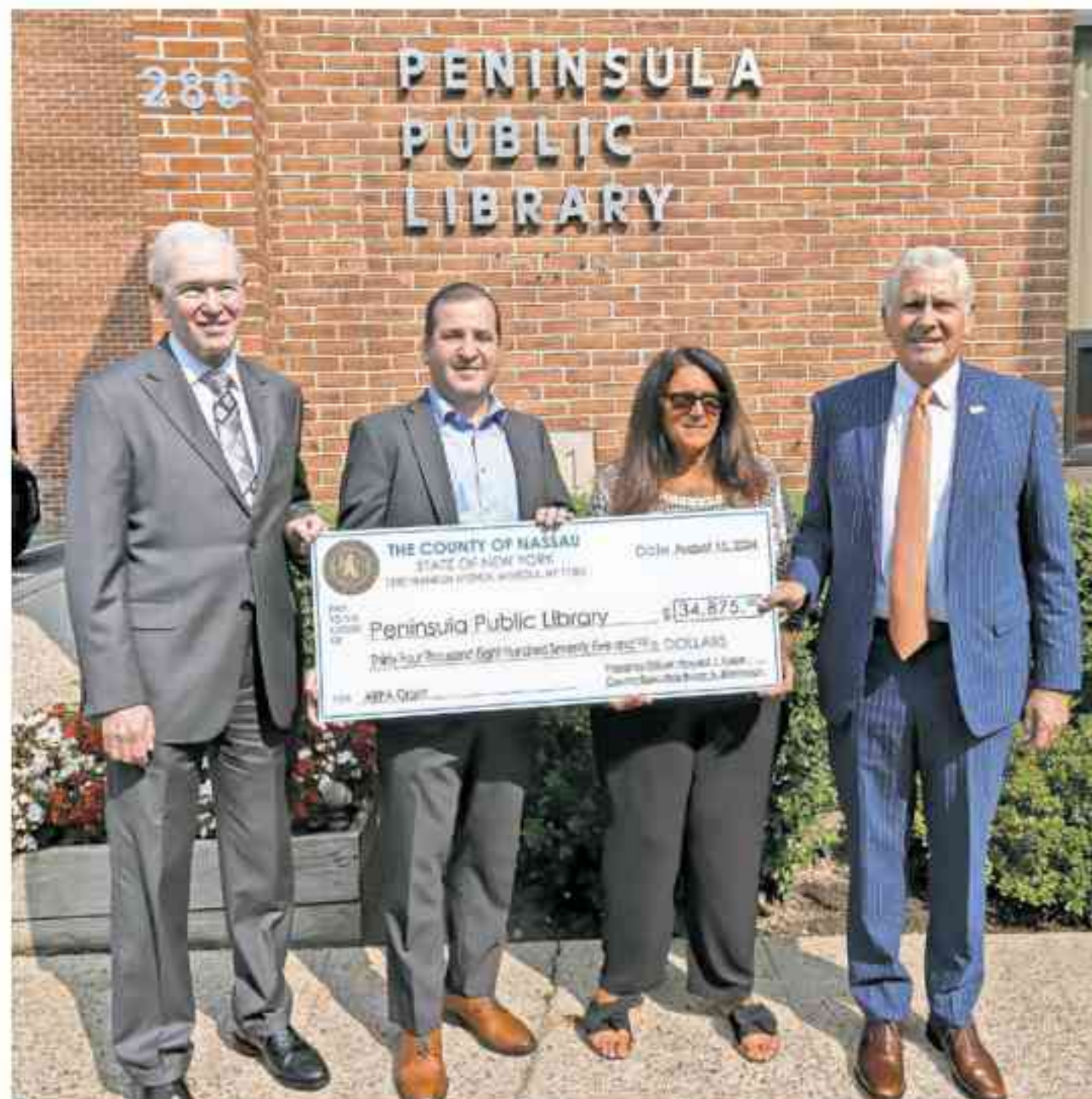
"Howard Kopel and I are firmly committed to increasing literacy and celebrating the joy of reading," Blakeman wrote in a statement. Kopel is the Legislature's presiding officer.

Matulewicz said the library applied for the grant through Nassau County.

"We're very excited, we're thrilled we were selected," she said.

With the allotted money, Matulewicz plans to buy a 3D printer for the STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts) and STEM programs at the library, new community room chairs, along with two study pods for students who need a quiet space.

"Peninsula Public Library has achieved one of the largest circulations on Long Island, with limited resources," Kopel wrote in a statement. "County



Legislator Howard Kopel, left, Peninsula Public Library Board Trustee Samuel Francis, Peninsula Public Library Director Carolynn Matulewicz and Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman celebrated improvements to be made to the Lawrence library thanks to an ARPA grant, applied to through the county.

Executive Bruce Blakeman and I had an excellent experience working with the library and its exceptionally staff. This grant is a great investment, and we look forward to working with the library in the future."

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## CRIME WATCH

# Pardoned by Trump, Braun charged with assault

Jonathan Braun, the convicted New York drug dealer pardoned by then President Donald Trump, was arrested Aug. 20 for allegedly assaulting his wife and father-in-law in their Atlantic Beach home.

Braun, 41, allegedly struck his wife and punched his father-in-law, 75, two times in the head as an argument turned physical.

According to police, Braun's wife also noted two other incidents — in July and on Aug. 12 — that she said he punched her several times in the head resulting in pain, bruising and dizziness.

Arraigned on Aug. 21, there are several charges associated with the alleged domestic disputes, including second-degree assault for causing intentional physical injury to someone 65 or older by a person more than 10 years or more younger. There were also misdemeanor assault charges for alleged attacks on his wife.

Braun was charged separately for petit larceny. He allegedly drove past the EZ Pass readers at the Atlantic Beach Bridge tollbooths without paying roughly 40 times between May 31 and July 10 — \$160 unpaid tolls.

Braun pleaded not guilty to the assault charges and was released on his own



Herald file photo

Convicted New York drug dealer Jonathan Braun, who was pardoned in 2021 by then President Donald Trump, was charged with assault of his wife and father-in-law on Aug. 21. Above, Trump at the 2016 presidential debate at Hofstra University.

recognizance. The Nassau County District Attorney's office requested a bail of \$35,000.

Attorney Arthur Gershfeld represents him.

Just before he left office, Trump commuted Braun's 10-year sentence for selling thousands of kilograms of marijuana.

— Jeffrey Bessen

# Fatal Woodmere crash, West Hempstead man convicted

The West Hempstead man that caused a fatal crash in Woodmere in December 2001 was convicted of several charges, including aggravated vehicular homicide on Aug. 21.

Arlin Aguilera, 37, was driving a blue 2014 Dodge Ram 1500 pickup truck that was traveling north on Peninsula Boulevard when it struck a white 2018 Audi Q5 sport utility vehicle that was turning southbound onto Peninsula Boulevard by Edward Avenue. It was alleged he was driving while intoxicated.

The subsequent crash killed Liel Namdar, 15, a sophomore at the Torah Academy for Girls in Far Rockaway. The four other people in the Audi were injured, including the driver Miriam Meltser who was severely injured.

"Fifteen-year-old Liel Namdar was a typical teenager, enjoying a long-awaited reunion with her friends from summer camp on that December night," Nassau County District Attorney Anne Donnelly said in news release.

"The girls had planned a sleepover

and were being driven to one of their homes to continue the fun when they were broadsided by a drunk and speeding Arlin Aguilera," she added in the release. "Every day we place our trust in our fellow drivers when we get behind the wheel of a car or clip our children into the backseat. This defendant betrayed that trust with fatal and irreparable consequences. Our thoughts remain with Liel's family as they mourn her tragic loss, and we will continue to hold drunk drivers accountable for their irresponsible actions that endanger our roadways."

Aguilera was also convicted of manslaughter, four counts of assault and two counts of driving while intoxicated.

That crash was the fifth fatal accident on Peninsula Boulevard in two years at that time and propelled the county to install a traffic signal at Edward Avenue.

Aguilera could be sentenced to up to 25 years in prison. Sentencing is scheduled for Oct. 4.

— Jeffrey Bessen

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# Next zoning board meeting is Sept. 19

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the real purpose of this is, and I can understand it, because I have a lot of relatives on the other side of the bridge,” Kestenbaum said, referring to the Atlantic Beach Bridge, “where houses are taken over for one purpose, and they’re turned into something very, very different.”

Village Trustee Anthony Livreri, who lives not far from the property, said he was speaking as a resident. “They say it’s a community outreach, but they never once reached out to anybody on that block in the last two years,” Livreri said, referring to the Chabad.

After the hearing, Atlantic Beach Mayor George Pappas wrote in a text message to the Herald that trustees have no influence on the BZA, but are permitted to speak as residents.

“When we bought our home in 2013 it was the bank,” Livreri’s wife, Erica Gerard, said. “It was a pass-through building. People did not gather there. People did not stay there.”

Gerard said she was concerned about additional traffic, especially in the early-morning hours. Goodman said the drive-through would open at 5:30 a.m.

She also commented on the proposed plans for just seven parking spots, for a building with a capacity of more than 40 people. The Chabad anticipates that village residents who visit would use municipal parking spots nearby, which require permits.

Another resident, Joseph Monteleone, and some BZA members, highlighted the difference between a Chabad community center and a retail space that would sell food at the drive-through.

“I would ask that they commit tonight to pay both sales tax and real estate taxes in the event that this board passes their requests,” Monteleone said.



Parker Schug/Herald

Rabbi Eli Goodman, of Chabad of the Beaches, far left, and attorney William Bonesso presented a plan for the building at 2025 Park St. in Atlantic Beach, property the Chabad purchased in 2021, to the village Board of Zoning Appeals.

Bonesso noted the terms of the legal settlement between the village and the Chabad. “The settlement is conditioned on Chabad receiving the variances and permits it needs to use the property for a Chabad house for outreach to the community,” Bonesso said. “If the Chabad is denied such variances and permits, it has the option to terminate the settlement and resume the federal litigation in which that the vil-

lage’s exposure would be considerably higher.” After the BZA announced that it would reserve its decision, Chairman George Cornish said there would be no additional hearings on the matter. The board’s next meeting is scheduled for Sept. 19.

*Have an opinion on the Chabad’s plans? Send a letter to [jbessen@liherald.com](mailto:jbessen@liherald.com).*

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Alice Moreno/Herald photos

Valley Stream Fire Department Ex-Chief Richard Sullivan, center, was all smiles as he was recognized for his dedication to the community.

# First responders celebrated for heroism

By ROKSANA AMID

ramid@liherald.com

First responders are the backbone of public safety across Nassau County, the first line of defense in emergencies. Whether it's battling fires, responding to medical crises or managing disasters, these dedicated professionals — firefighters, police officers, paramedics and EMTs — rush into danger to protect and save lives.

In a heartfelt ceremony at the Nassau County Police Department's David S. Mack Center for Intelligence on Aug. 22, U.S. Rep. Anthony D'Esposito recognized the courage and dedication of more than 40 first responders from around the county. They were nominated by their municipalities in the 4th Congressional District for acts of heroism and exemplary service.

D'Esposito, who served as a detective in the New York City Police Department for over a decade and as chief of the Island Park Fire Department, emphasized the critical role first responders play, not just in times of crisis, but in the daily safety and security of county residents.

"We are gathered here this evening really for something that we should be doing every single day," he said. "It's unfortunate in the world that we live in that all too often, it seems that war is being waged on first responders. Those of us in law enforcement have seen that the handcuffs that we're supposed to use on others have suddenly been used on us, hindering us from doing the great work and conducting the great investigations that we do."

During the ceremony, D'Esposito also announced a major achievement for the Nassau County Police Department: a \$3 million federal grant that he secured to build a state-of-the-art

training center. This new facility, set to be constructed behind the existing Center for Intelligence, will feature simulated environments such as a bank, a restaurant, a school, a store, and houses of worship. These realistic settings will provide invaluable training opportunities for police officers as well as federal agents and other law enforcement partners.

Among the honorees was Lt. Petros Mesthenas, a 36-year veteran of the Freeport Fire Department. Mesthenas was recognized for his heroic actions during a devastating five-alarm fire on April 1, 2023, when he navigated a smoke-filled, explosion-damaged garage to rescue two trapped firefighters. His bravery also earned him the prestigious title of New York state's Firefighter of the Year earlier this month.

"I'm a product of the tradition and the experience that has been passed down to me by the senior men of Church Street," Mesthenas said. "It was very nice to receive the recognition, but there's tons of other people out there that deserve it also every day."

Another honoree was Ex-Chief Richard Sullivan of the Valley Stream Fire Department, for his more than six decades of service to the community. At age 83, Sullivan continues to serve in the department, and remains an active member of the Benevolent Association. He has worked with the village since 1960, and celebrated his 65th year in the department and the association this year.

County Executive Bruce Blakeman, who was also in attendance, lauded the first responders for their unwavering commitment to the community. "Without first responders, the residents of Nassau would be less happy and less safe," Blakeman said.

## First responders honored by Congressman Anthony D'Esposito

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Cedarhurst Auxiliary Police Department</b><br>Auxiliary Police Officer Adam Kwitkin | <b>Lawrence-Cedarhurst Fire Department</b><br>Chief Michael Belinson               |
| <b>East Meadow Fire Department</b><br>Ex-Chief Arthur Sperr                            | Chief Meyer Adler  |
| Ex-Chief Eric Becker   | <b>Lynbrook Fire Department</b><br>Corresponding Secretary Robert Scott            |
| Ex-Chief James Aspenleiter Sr.   | <b>Lynbrook Police Department</b><br>Officer Jean Claude James                     |
| Capt. James Aspenleiter Jr.  | <b>Malverne Fire Department</b><br>Ex-Chief Scott Edwards                          |
| <b>East Rockaway Fire Department</b><br>Ex-Chief Ronnie Roeill                         | <b>Nassau County Police Department</b><br>Officer Quinn Knauer                     |
| <b>Freeport Fire Department</b><br>Lt. Petros Mesthenas                                | Officer Dylan Judd   |
| <b>Freeport Police Department</b><br>Detective Shawn Randall                           | Officer Richard Czechtoka  |
| <b>Garden City Fire Department</b><br>Ex-Chief Leonard Rivera                          | Officer Nicholas Accardi   |
| <b>Garden City Police Department</b><br>Detective Steve Roumeliotis                    | Officer Evan T. O'Brien  |
| Officer James Gunnels  | Officer Christopher Black  |
| Officer Thomas Schade  | <b>North Merrick Fire Department</b><br>1st Assistant Chief Daniel Fasano          |
| Detective Paul Hennesy   | <b>Lido &amp; Point Lookout Fire District</b><br>Assistant Chief Dr. David Neubert |
| Lieutenant Matthew Walsh   | <b>Rockville Centre Fire Department</b><br>Chief Scott Mohr                        |
| Officer Michael Titteron   | Ex-Chief Michael Lapkowski   |
| Comms. Operator Dana Gaspares  | Lt. John Grandazza   |
| Detective Lt. William Grimes   | Lt. Johnny Cook  |
| Officer Christopher Caiazza  | <b>Stewart Manor Fire Department</b><br>Honorary Chief Carl Barone                 |
| Officer Nicholas Pumilia   | <b>Uniondale Fire Department</b><br>Ex-Chief Jessica Ellerbe                       |
| Detective Kevin Madden   | <b>Valley Stream Fire Department</b><br>Ex-Chief Richard Sullivan                  |
| Officer Tiffany D'Alessandro   | <b>Wantagh Fire Department</b><br>Capt. Stephen Lincke                             |
| Detective Lawrence Petraglia   |  |
| <b>Long Beach Police Department</b><br>Officer Kevin Rice                              |  |
| <b>Island Park Fire Department</b><br>Ex-Captain Ricky Holodar                         |  |



# Five Towns families host Israeli youth

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"I spoke with the shul rabbi and president. They were all enthusiastic about hosting, and then it was just a matter of securing hosts."

Silvera found hosts who live near Young Israel of Woodmere, so they could walk to shul with the children on Aug. 17.

"Everyone I spoke to said yes immediately," she said. "It's a very warm and caring community that just wants to help and do good things, so that was very, very easy."

The kids were welcomed at YIW on Aug. 16, with swag and an ice cream truck, and met their host families. They spent Friday night with the families, getting to know them and learning about the community.

On Saturday, YIW held a special service for the children, led by Rabbi Eliyahu Wolf, and afterward hosted them at a luncheon. Later that day, Tali and Eli Neuberger hosted a meal for the kids at their Woodmere home. After Shabbat, the children and their hosts went bowling at Woodmere Lanes, joined by other members of the community.

"Shabbos with the FIDF Legacy Camp was truly a wonderful experience for all," Silvera said. "The bonding between the campers, staff and their host families started at Friday night dinner in each host's home, and contin-



Courtesy FIDF

Campers and staff at the Omer Adam concert in Great Neck on Aug. 18, with Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman, center. Front, from left, were Orli Cole, Michelle Ahdoot, Natalie Nejat and FIDF staffers Pninit Cole, Orna Sheena, Stephanie Feit and Orly Maslavi.

ued throughout Shabbat. All of the family hosts had offered to help and give these children a beautiful Shabbat, but in the end we all felt like we received

something so special in return. We all had so much fun together, and felt like we had new family members by the time they left Sunday morning."

Their weekend concluded at a concert by the Israeli singing star Omer Adam in Great Neck, where Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman met with them.

"It's nice for them to be able to have an enjoyable experience amongst people who understand what they're going through," Feit said. "They come back home with a joy they didn't have before, and it's so special to hear that."

The FIDF funded the children's camp experience. Malky and Jay Specter, of Woodmere, who helped form the FIDF's Greater Five Towns South Shore chapter 16 years ago, noted how happy the kids were despite the trauma they are enduring.

"My husband and I went to the bowling at Woodmere Lanes on Saturday night, and to see them laughing and smiling during this tough time was beautiful to see," Malky Specter said.

She explained that she grew up in a Zionist home — in which the focus was a Jewish state in Palestine — attended the FIDF national dinner on Long Island for many years, and wanted to create a chapter on the South Shore.

"We're very proud of the community, and hope new people will step up to the plate," she said.

To get involved in the chapter, reach out to Stephanie Feit at [stephanie.feit@fidf.org](mailto:stephanie.feit@fidf.org).

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# HERALD NEIGHBORS



Trainers Ryan Greenberg, left, and Michael Simao taught the participants the importance of water safety and rescue as part of the rescue squad training.



Sam Krup practiced lifting Dan Ziegler Jr. into the lifeboat as part of the emergency medical service water safety and rescue training hosted by the Atlantic Beach Rescue Squad.

## Atlantic Beach Rescue Squad hosts water safety training

For the first time in years, the Atlantic Beach Rescue Squad took emergency medical service professionals out into the water for safety and rescue measures.

“Were taking good EMTs (emergency medical technicians) and making them comfortable in the water,” Nat Etrog, an Atlantic Beach trustee and longtime rescue squad member said.

Roughly 60 paramedics, EMS agency members, firefighters and other rescue squad personnel joined forces to participate in a hands-on EMS Water Safety and Rescue training at the Atlantic Beach Rescue Headquarters at 1 Rescue Road on Aug. 18.

The morning start featured self-rescue, as well as best practices when helping others, like aiding cases on boats, pulling victims from the water and treating someone after a water-rescue related call.

Many times, Etrog said, rescuers are helping anxious and dehydrated victims, if on a boat-related call. At times, there are cases of hypothermia and worse conditions.

The training, sponsored by Nassau County EMS Academy, is in its 11th non-consecutive year. All Nassau County EMTs must get recertified every three to four years and this specific course offers three credits.

— Parker Schug



Alice Moreno/ Herald Photos

Legislator Patrick Mullaney, left, Nat Etrog, Daniel Hammelburg and Anthony Rivelli took part in the 11th Atlantic Beach Water Safety and Rescue Squad training at Atlantic Beach Rescue Headquarters on Aug. 18.



The Atlantic Beach rescue team led the 11th Atlantic Beach Rescue Squad training to help first responders improve their water rescue practices.



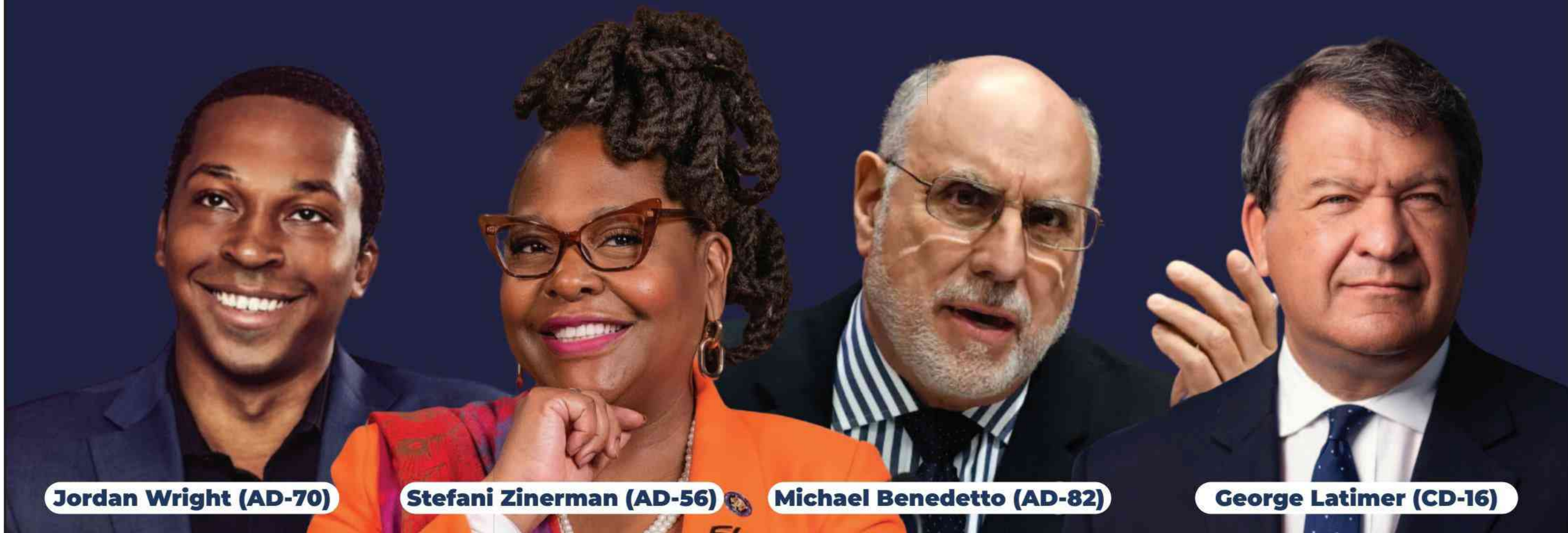
The 11th Atlantic Beach Water Safety and Rescue Squad training was an immersive experience for trainees who practiced flipping a capsized rescue boat.



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# Two new administrators in Hewlett-Woodmere

Two administrators, one of which is a familiar face, will kick off the school year in new positions in the Hewlett-Woodmere school district.

Alan Groveman has filled the role of interim assistant superintendent of finance and personnel and Reina Hall is the new assistant principal at Hewlett Elementary School.

Groveman, who takes the place of Marie Donnelly, served as interim superintendent in Huntington, interim assistant superintendent for business in Roosevelt, interim assistant superintendent for human resources in Islip, interim superintendent in Garden City and assistant superintendent for business and finance in Lindenhurst.

Before retiring, Groveman the Connetquot school district superintendent for nine years. From 2002 to 2004, Groveman was the Levittown school district's assistant superintendent for administration and personnel and from 1994 to 2002, assistant superintendent for business and finance.

He was also an administrator and teacher for years, while being involved in the Suffolk County Vocational Education Board, the Section XI Finance Committee, Eastern Suffolk BOCES Space Planning Committee and the Parent Net-

work for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse.

Some of Groveman's education experience was spent at the undergraduate level, where he taught as an adjunct professor at St. John's University and Stony Brook University.

Groveman earned his master's degrees from Columbia University Teachers College and University of Rhode Island and his bachelor's degree from City University of New York.

"He is a highly skilled school business leader who will play a significant role in the development of the 2025-2026 school budget, while leading our business and human resources departments and serving as a valued member of our District Leadership Team," Ralph Marino Jr., superintendent of Hewlett-Woodmere Schools said in a news release.

Hall, who fills the shoes of Ross Cohen, has over two decades of experience serving the Hewlett-Woodmere district.

In 2023 and 2023, Hall was the assistant principal for the district's summer learning academy, a pre-kindergarten to sixth grade program created to strengthen core literacy and math skills.

Hall taught as the technology integration lead teacher at Hewlett Elementary



Parker Schug/Herald

**Reina Hall has filled the shoes of Ross Cohen, as new assistant principal at Hewlett Elementary School.**

School, coordinating professional development workshops and mentoring the school's teachers.

She also served as a special education

teacher at the elementary school, since 2008, in integrated co-teaching and self-contained classrooms.

Before coming to the district, Hall taught fifth grade at P.S. 15 Fairview School in Corona for five years.

Her time at Hewlett-Woodmere was not just spent in the schools, as she was the district liaison to SEPTA (Special Education PTA), the leader of collegial circles and an organizer for the Veterans Day Assembly as well as other family events like Parent Universities and STEAM Nights.

Hall has been a part of the New York State Instructional Technology Plan Committee, the School Building Level Technology Committee and the Principals Advisory Committee.

She received the SEPTA Teachers Recognition Award in 2023, the Judges Award at the Web-Play Awards in 2005 and the New Teacher of the Year Award from United Federation of Teachers in 2004.

Hall earned an educational leadership certificate from Long Island University, C.W. Post, a master's degree from St. John's University and a bachelor's degree from St. Bonaventure University.

—Parker Schug

## UNRESERVED JUDGMENT

### Sounds of (non) Silence

In my day, before both items became obsolete, it was chalk scratching across a blackboard. Now, it's a cell phone (or watch) going off during a concert or show.

Either way, each is an example of a sound found universally annoying by those forced to endure what is collectively deemed "noise pollution."

While some sounds, like the above, are obvious and include dripping faucets and metal garbage cans rattling in the early morning and printers continuously beeping to let you know they're out of ink 'till you're out of your "beeping" mind, most annoying sounds are more subtle; yet often, just as annoying.

Such audio agonies include: sheets of paper being torn from a notebook... snoring... predawn leaf blowers ... cicadas ... each whistling breath drawn by the guy next to you who needs to blow his nose ... cars (and babies) without mufflers ... audible, but indiscernible, conversations ... trucks backing up ... broken doorbells ... whining ... car alarms that nobody shuts and to which nobody responds... dentists' drills... glass breaking ... drawers that need oil ... construction before eight a.m. ... singing along by those who do, but shouldn't ... squirrels on the roof (or worse, in the

attic) ...

Subways screeching to a halt ... vacuum cleaners ... the ticking of a clock (for those who remember when clocks ticked and tocked) ... cats crying in the night ... katz crying in the day ... motorcycles in residential areas ... sneakers on a gym floor... untuned instruments tuning ...

windshield wipers on a dry windshield ... little kids banging on the piano (or drum or plate or other little kids) ... hairdryers ... radio stations fading as you drive beyond the range of frequency... train horns ...

Jack hammers ... squeaky shoes ... mumbling ... sirens at twelve-noon ... newspaper pages being turned ... your neighbor's pool equipment (never your own) ... music played (and replayed and

replayed) when you're placed on hold ... wedding bands (the orchestra, not the rings) ... too loud or too close ... the snapping of chewing gum... the clicking of pens (by those who still use them)... unanswered tea kettles... people yelling "hello, hello" into an obviously disconnected telephone line... and perhaps, the most annoying of all:

The 'yes' of the coward, the 'no' of a loved one, and the politicians "maybe."

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RON GOLDMAN

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Striking out Alzheimer's, one step at a time

Community members in Nassau County are invited to lace up their walking shoes and join the Alzheimer's Foundation of America for its annual Alzheimer's Walk in the Park on Saturday, Sept. 28, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. in Eisenhower Park. Event organizers promise a morning of community spirit, with New York baseball icon Dwight Gooden participating in the opening ceremonies, signing autographs, and taking photos with walkers.

The walk, held at Field 6 of Eisenhower Park, is a free event open to all, though participants are encouraged to raise funds either individually or as part of a team. Funds raised through the walk will support AFA's programs and services for families affected by Alzheimer's disease and contribute to research for better treatments and a cure. To get involved, walkers can sign up and start fundraising through the walk website at [ALZfdn.org/walk](http://ALZfdn.org/walk).

Charles Fuschillo, the foundation's president and chief executive, highlighted the significance of the event, saying, "In the fight against Alzheimer's, each step counts, which is why we are encouraging everyone to walk with us on Sept. 28.

"The funds and awareness raised will make a tremendous difference for families affected by Alzheimer's disease and other dementia-related illnesses in their time of need," he said. "We are grateful to Dwight Gooden for

serving as our honorary Alzheimer's Ambassador for the event and invite everyone to help us strikeout Alzheimer's."

Gooden, a former Cy Young Award winner and World Series champion with the Mets and Yankees, also expressed his enthusiasm for the event.

The Alzheimer's Foundation of America is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing support, services, and education to individuals, families, and caregivers affected by Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. The foundation funds research for better treatment and a cure and offers services such as a National Toll-Free Helpline, caregiver support groups, educational programs, and more.

Walk participants who fundraise at least \$100 will have the opportunity to meet Gooden and receive an autographed baseball. Those raising \$250 or more will also enjoy a professional photo opportunity with the baseball legend.

Sponsorship opportunities are available for businesses and individuals interested in supporting the cause.

Alzheimer's disease remains a pressing public health issue, with over 6.9 million Americans currently living with the disease. For more information on how to register, fundraise, or sponsor, visit [ALZfdn.org/walk](http://ALZfdn.org/walk).

—Jordan vallone



## PERSON TO PERSON

## Brainstorming: In the opposite direction

**I** hate my job," Marianne said. "I'd love to quit but I'm afraid. My job pays the bills. It provides health insurance, status, and respectability. I'd be so nervous giving up those benefits, so I err on the side of caution."

"What if you didn't err on the side of caution?" I asked, "But erred on the side of risk? Then what would you do?"

With an impish smile, she

replied, "I'd quit my job today and travel for a month. Then, I'd start my own business."

Marianne didn't quit her job that day, but after reviewing her financial situation and responsibilities, she did six months later.

She had had enough of "settling," of playing it safe. She was tired of erring on the side of caution.

Always the dutiful daughter and willing worker, she was finally ready to take a gigantic risk. Throwing off the shackles of always doing what was expected of her, she gave two weeks' notice, then booked her trip to Europe. "This move," Marianne reflected, "was not simply a career move; it was about saving my soul."

Three years later, when I saw Marianne, she was elated that she had decided to leave her job. "Not only was starting my own business what I longed to do, but it also, strangely enough, left me in a safer position than some of my former colleagues. When the economy went south, several of my co-workers were let go."

To make her momentous decision, Marianne had to brainstorm. Brainstorming encourages thinking in the opposite way to your usual way of thinking. For Marianne, this meant erring on the side of risk, instead of caution. Most brainstorming, however, is more complex. It's a way to problem-solve by rapidly generating a variety of

possible solutions, without censoring or telling yourself, "That's impossible."

Often, brainstorming is done in a small group, in which all members contribute their ideas. The goal is to generate possible, though not necessarily realistic or probable solutions. It's important not to reject an idea early on because it sounds silly, or you don't believe it'll work. By counteracting the tendency to ditch an idea before you

examine its possibilities, you'll expand and enrich your life.

So, next time you feel stuck, envisioning only one possible solution to a problem, try brainstorming — by yourself, or better yet, with others. The process will expand your creativity and energize your spirit. It's fun to do. It doesn't bite. It has zero calories. And it's free. How many things do you know that satisfy all these criteria?

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Linda Sapadin, Ph.D., psychologist, coach, and author specializes in helping people improve their relationships, enhance their lives, and overcome debilitating anxiety, procrastination, and depression. Contact her at [DrSapadin@aol.com](mailto:DrSapadin@aol.com). Visit her website at [PsychWisdom.com](http://PsychWisdom.com).


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# STEPPING OUT

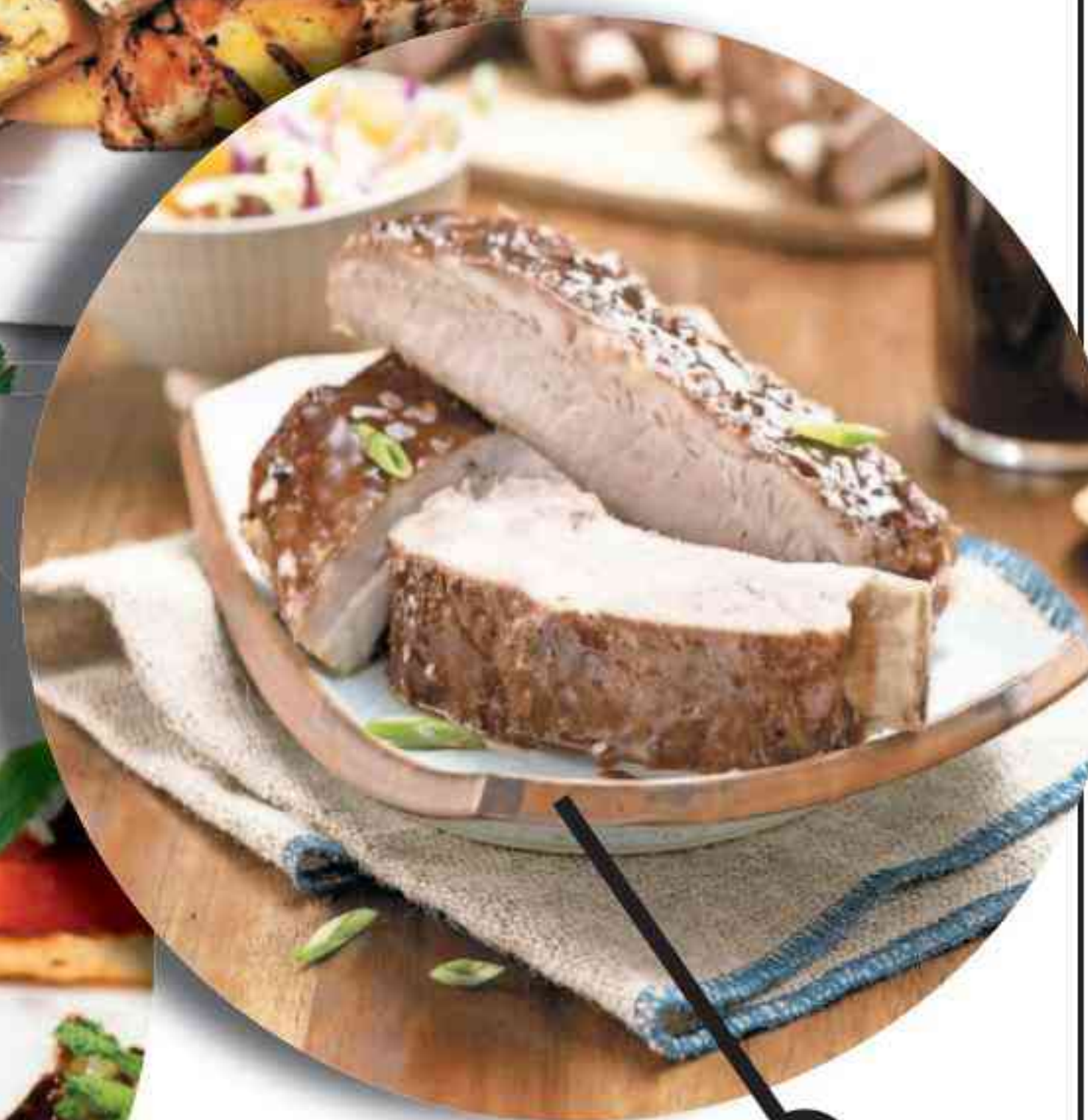
## At The grill



Chicken and Pineapple Skewers



Grilled Watermelon, Feta and Balsamic Crackers



Asian Style Ribs

Summer's farewell is best enjoyed with some al fresco entertaining

By Karen Bloom

Fire up that grill to savor summer's waning days over Labor Day weekend. When it comes to entertaining outdoors, easy yet flavorful dishes that spotlight the season's bountiful harvest can keep prep time to a minimum. Plus, they're sure to please guests' palates.

Of course, appetizers while you wait for the grill to heat are practically a requirement, after all. Instead of the typical rich, creamy dips, try a lighter approach, like some cracker canapés. That set the stage for what's to come.

### Grilled Watermelon, Feta and Balsamic Crackers

- 4 watermelon wedges (1/2-inch thick slices, 4 inches wide at base)
- 16 multi-grain crackers of your choice
- 1/4 cup finely crumbled feta cheese
- 1/4 cup prepared balsamic reduction
- 2 tablespoons finely chopped fresh mint
- Kalamata olives, optional

Heat grill to medium-high; grease grate well. Grill watermelon wedges, turning once, 3-5 minutes, or until grill-marked on both sides. Cut each watermelon wedge into four smaller wedges.

Top each cracker with watermelon wedge and sprinkle with feta. Drizzle with balsamic reduction. Garnish with fresh mint.

Tip: Add finely chopped Kalamata olives for a tangy twist.

### Chicken and Pineapple Skewers

- 8 skewers
- 1 pineapple
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 1 3/4 boneless skinless chicken breasts, diced into 1-inch pieces

Soak wooden skewers for 15 minutes prior to grilling.

Heat grill to medium-high heat.

Remove rind from pineapple and dice into 1-inch pieces.

In small bowl, combine oil, salt and pepper. Add chicken and pineapple; toss to coat.

Alternating chicken and pineapple, pierce onto skewers.

Grill skewers 8 minutes each side, or until chicken is cooked thoroughly. Serve with lemon-cucumber salsa; makes 4 servings.

### Lemon-Cucumber Salsa

- 1 lemon, supremed
- 1 cucumber, diced
- 1/2 red onion, diced
- 1 tablespoon wildflower honey
- 1 teaspoon ground black pepper

In medium bowl, combine lemon, cucumber, onion, honey and pepper.

Tip: Supreme citrus fruit by cutting off top and bottom of fruit then cut away peel and pith, leaving no white on outside of fruit. Slice each segment into wedges by cutting toward center of fruit along membrane.

### Asian Style Ribs

- 1/2 cup kosher salt
- 1/3 cup light brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon ground cinnamon
- 1 1/2 teaspoons ground anise or fennel seed
- 1 teaspoon black pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cloves
- 2 racks St. Louis-Style spareribs, membrane removed
- 1 handful hickory or apple wood chips for smoking, soaked in water and drained (optional)
- 2 cups hoisin barbecue sauce

About 30 minutes before grilling, make the dry rub.

Combine the first six ingredients in small bowl; mix well. Generously coat both sides of ribs with rub. Set aside at room temperature for 30 minutes.

Heat charcoal or gas grill for indirect cooking at 275 F. Add drained wood chips, if using.

Place the ribs, meaty side up, over a drip pan and cook for 2 hours. Add about 12 coals to a charcoal grill every 45 minutes or so to maintain the heat.

Remove ribs from grill. Double-wrap each rack in heavy-duty aluminum foil. Return wrapped ribs to the grill and cook for 2 hours more over indirect heat, until very tender.

Remove ribs from grill and unwrap. Place ribs over direct heat on grill and brush with hoisin barbecue sauce. Cook for about 5 minutes until the sauce is set. Turn ribs and repeat with more sauce. Serve ribs with remaining hoisin barbecue sauce.



### Dweezil Zappa

Guitarist Dweezil Zappa brings the aptly named "Rox-Postrophy" Tour to the Paramount stage. Zappa is celebrating two of his father Frank Zappa's landmark albums, "Roxy & Elsewhere" and "Apostrophe." The tour commemorates the 50th Anniversary of both albums and Zappa has curated a setlist highlighting fan-favorite tracks from each record, replete with unique hybrid arrangements. Known for his masterful performances and deep connection to his father's music, he returns to concert stages for the first time since the 2020 Hot Ratz Live! Tour, continuing to guide fans through the thrilling and sophisticated world of his father's music. His music effortlessly traverses genres, seamlessly weaving together elements of rock, fusion, and experimental sounds, all while maintaining a signature style that is unmistakably his own. In addition to his solo work

Friday, Aug. 30, 8 p.m. \$89, \$79.50, \$69.50, \$59.50, \$49.50, \$39.50.  
The Paramount, 370 New York Ave., Huntington. Tickets available at Ticketmaster.com or ParamountNY.com.



### Brandy Clark

Grammy and CMA Award-winner, Brandy Clark is one of her generation's most esteemed songwriters and musicians. A perennial critics' favorite, Brandy Clark is "universally revered" among fellow country songwriters, having penned hits for Kacey Musgraves, Band Perry, Darius Rucker, and Miranda Lambert (Los Angeles Times). But Nashville's sought-after tunesmith is coming into the spotlight after a whirlwind period that included her Broadway debut as co-composer/lyricist of the Tony Award-winning musical "Shucked," the release of her latest self-titled album (produced by close friend and collaborator, Brandi Carlile), and winning the Grammy Award for Best Americana Performance for her haunting hit ballad, "Dear Insecurity."

Wednesday, Sept. 4, 8 p.m. Tickets start at \$35. Tilles Center for the Performing Arts, LIU Post campus, 720 Northern Boulevard, Brookville. Tickets available at TillesCenter.org or (516) 299-3100.



# YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD THE \$ SCENE

**Sept. 7** The Jackie Mason Musical

Laughs abound when this entertaining show arrives on the Landmark stage, Friday, **Sept. 7**, 8 p.m., and Saturday, Sept. 8, 3 p.m. It's based on the playwright's 10-year whirlwind romance with comedy legend Jackie Mason, featuring a hilarious cast of characters, including lovechild comic Sheba Mason. Since the passing of the eight-time comic in late 2021, the ending has been written. The Jackie Mason Musical begins at a deli in Miami Beach in 1977, where Jackie — then a 46-year-old comedian — spots college girl Ginger (played by Jackie and the playwright's real life daughter Sheba Mason in the Off-Broadway production).

Along for the ride is her overbearing mom and five off-beat characters. Soon Jackie is wooing Ginger each winter whenever he's in South Florida churning up laughs with the South Beach set. The trouble is, Jackie is also wooing Trixie, a ravishing young Latina server, and Rosa, a senior server with attitude. Jackie is a "player," albeit a Delicatessen player, manipulating dates, and times, all managed by a sidekick named Wooley the Shlepalong who is constantly on the go with excuses and fallback plans for the comic's escapades — sometimes juggling as many as four women a day — a fact that sends Ginger into romantic distress. It's a tour de force highlighting Mason's romantic misadventures as Broadway stardom emerges and Sheba is born. Jeanne Rimsky Theater at Landmark on Main Street, 232 Main St., Port Washington. Visit [LandmarkOnMainStreet.org](http://LandmarkOnMainStreet.org) for tickets and information, or call (516) 767-6444.



## Abundant Apple Trees

Fall arrives soon and Long Island Children's Museum is ready to welcome the season, Thursday, **Sept. 5**, 2:30-4 p.m. Drop by the Inner Lobby craft table with the kids to take part in a themed craft using various materials. September is the month most apples are at their peak for harvesting, so make an apple tree craft to bring home. Long Island Children's Museum, Museum Row, Garden City. (516) 224-5800 or LICM.org.

## Hewlett Fire Department Breakfast Connect

Join the Hewlett Fire Department for the weekly breakfast connect on Wednesday, **Sept. 4**, 8-9 a.m. The breakfast meeting is free and open to everyone in the community. Hewlett Fire Department at the Benjamin J. Moleno Hall, 25 Franklin Avenue, Hewlett. For more information and to reserve a spot, call or text Andrew Leibowitz at (516) 790-4829.



## Rockin' Labor Day

Rock on at Point Lookout for a rousing Labor Day weekend celebration, at Town Park Point Lookout, with Mike DelGuidice, Saturday, **Aug. 31**, 8 p.m. The free concert, hosted by the Town of Hempstead, concludes with a fireworks show.

DelGuidice, known for his appearances with Billy Joel, captivates audiences all over with his renditions of the Joel hits, along with his own tunes. 1300 Lido Blvd. in Point Lookout. For information, visit [toh.li](http://toh.li).

## Sunny Atlantic 5K Run/Walk

Sunny Atlantic Beach Club holds its Annual 5K Run & Family Walk, Sunday, **Sept. 29**, 8:30 a.m. Registration begins at 7:45 a.m. and post-race refreshments will be served. Awards will be given out and free finish line photos will be taken. Register online at [CommunityChestSS.org](http://CommunityChestSS.org), for more information call (516) 374-5800. Sunny Atlantic Beach Club, 2035 Ocean Boulevard, Atlantic Beach.

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Thurs: 9am - 6pm      Sun: 9am - 3:00pm

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## Defensive Driving Class

Brush up on your driving skills with a Defensive Driving Course, Monday, **Sept. 16**, at 7 p.m., at Marion & Aaron Gural JCC. The course, conducted by Morris Wargo, is approved by the NYS-DMV and recognized by all state auto insurers. Recieve 10% discount off your liability, PIP and collision insurance on all your vehicles for up to threeyears, upon completion. \$70 course fee; pre-registration is required. To register, email rachayle.deutsch@guraljcc.org., 207 Grove Ave., Cedarhurst.

## In concert

Bagel Boss of Hewlett its concert series, Saturday, **Sept. 7**, 9 p.m.-12 a.m Vinyl Cut performs '60s and '70s tunes. 1352 Peninsula Blvd, Hewlett. For more information call (516) 569-8600.

## Concert series

The Village of Cedarhurst 27th annual Tuesday Night Concerts under the Gazebo series welcomes "A Night of Irish Music," Tuesday, **Sept. 10**, 7 p.m., at Andrew J. Parise Park Andy Cooney and his band and Donny Golden School of Irish Dancing perform. With children's pre-show. 235 Cedarhurst Ave.

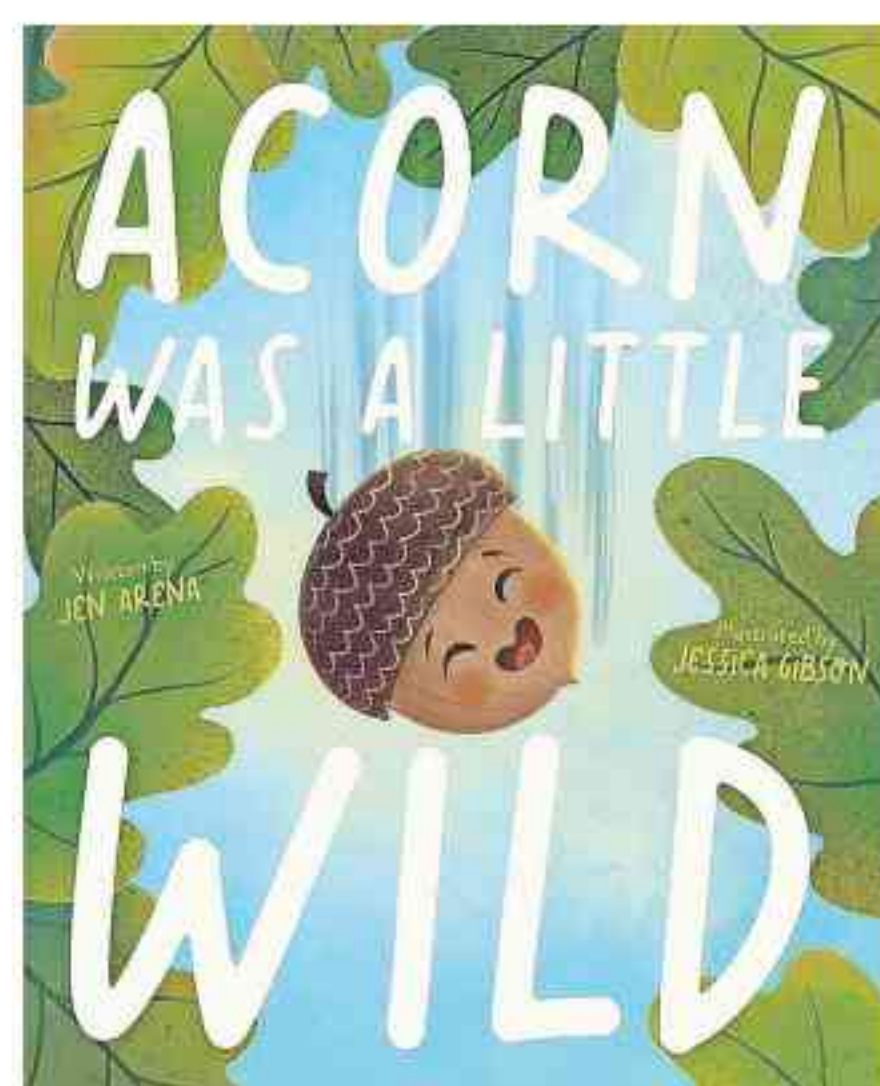
Sept.  
**11**

## Village of Cedarhurst 9/11 Memorial Ceremony

The Village of Cedarhurst holds the annual 9/11 Memorial Ceremony, Wednesday, **Sept. 11**, 4-5 p.m., at Andrew J. Parise Park. We remember the horrific events and pay tribute to the first responders and their families. The village remembers those from the community, Kevin O'Rourke, Neil D. Levin, Thomas E. Jurgens, Joseph Rivelli, Jr., Ira Zaslow, Bettina Browne Radburn and Howard Selwyn. 235 Cedarhurst Ave.

## Game Time

Play canasta, mah jongg or Scrabble during in-person game time, on Monday, **Sept. 9**, 2-4:30 p.m., in the Bentley Room of Peninsula Public Library. 280 Central Ave., Lawrence. Seating limited. First come, first seated.



## Storybook Stroll

Bring the kids to Old Westbury Gardens for another storybook adventure, Saturday, **Sept. 7**, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Stroll the gardens and listen to Jen Arena's "Acorn Was A Little Wild!" Later create a unique take home craft. The stroll starts at the Beech Tree (next to Westbury House), ending at the Thatched Cottage. For ages 3-5. Old Westbury Gardens, 71 Old Westbury Rd., Old Westbury. For information visit OldWestburyGardens.org or contact (516) 333-0048.

## Having an event?

Items on The Scene page are listed free of charge. The Herald welcomes listings of upcoming events, community meetings and items of public interest. All submissions should include date, time and location of the event, cost, and a contact name and phone number. Submissions can be emailed to thescene@liherald.com.

## On exhibit

Nassau County Museum of Art 's latest exhibition "Seeing Red: Renoir to Warhol," reveals the many meanings, connotations, and associations of this powerful color in art. Evoking strong emotion, red can represent the human condition. Its myriad variations have come to signify authority as well as love, energy and beauty. Red warns us of peril and commands us to stop, but it can also indicate purity and good fortune. Red boldly represents political movements and religious identities. From the advent of our appreciation for this color in antiquity to its continued prominence in artistic and popular culture, this exhibition will span various world cultures through a range of media.

It features more than 70 artists, both established and emerging, ranging from the classical to the contemporary. American portraitists such as Gilbert Stuart imbued red in their stately paintings of prominent individuals to conjure authority. Robert Motherwell, Ad Reinhardt, and other major abstract painters displayed a deep fascination with red in their commanding compositions that evoke a sense of chromatic power. And, of course, Andy Warhol is known for his bold and imposing silkscreened portrait of Vladimir Lenin saturated in bright red to his signature Campbell's Soup Cans. On view through Jan. 5. Nassau County Museum of Art, 1 Museum Dr., Roslyn Harbor. (516) 484-9337 or NassauMuseum.org.

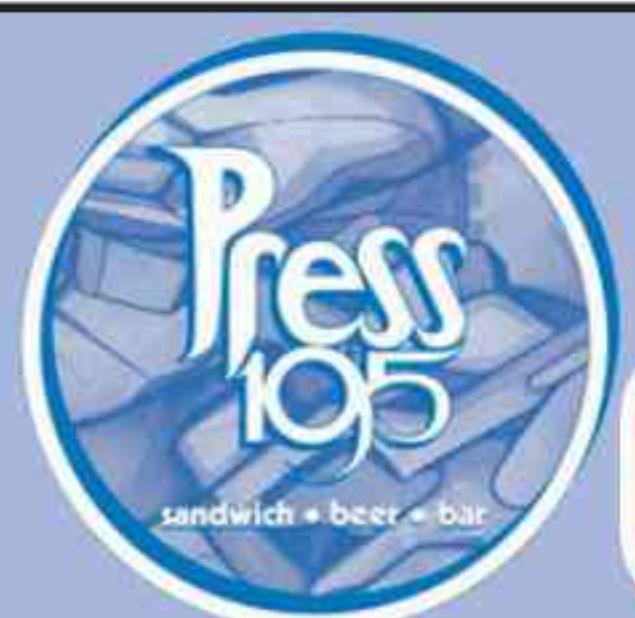


Sept.  
**28**

## Art League of L.I. exhibit

In support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the Art League of Long Island presents "Retrospect - The Individual Art of Collaboration in Reconstructive Surgery." The exhibit delves into the interplay between personal artistry and collaborative efforts in the context of breast reconstruction, showcasing how the healing process can transcend medicine to become an inspiring narrative of restoration and personal resilience. This unique exhibition explores the intersection of medicine and art through the lens of two accomplished breast reconstruction surgeons, Dr. Ron Israeli and Dr. Jonathan Bank, whose careers and artistic endeavors are deeply intertwined.

The works on display show the multifaceted nature of artistic expression in medicine and surgery. Their work emphasizes the importance of collaborative creativity in the healing process, offering viewers a unique perspective on the emotional and physical aspects of breast reconstruction. On view **Sept. 28** through **Oct. 18**. Jeanie Tengelsen Gallery at Art League of Long Island, 107 East Deer Park Road, Dix Hills. Visit artleagueli.org for more information.



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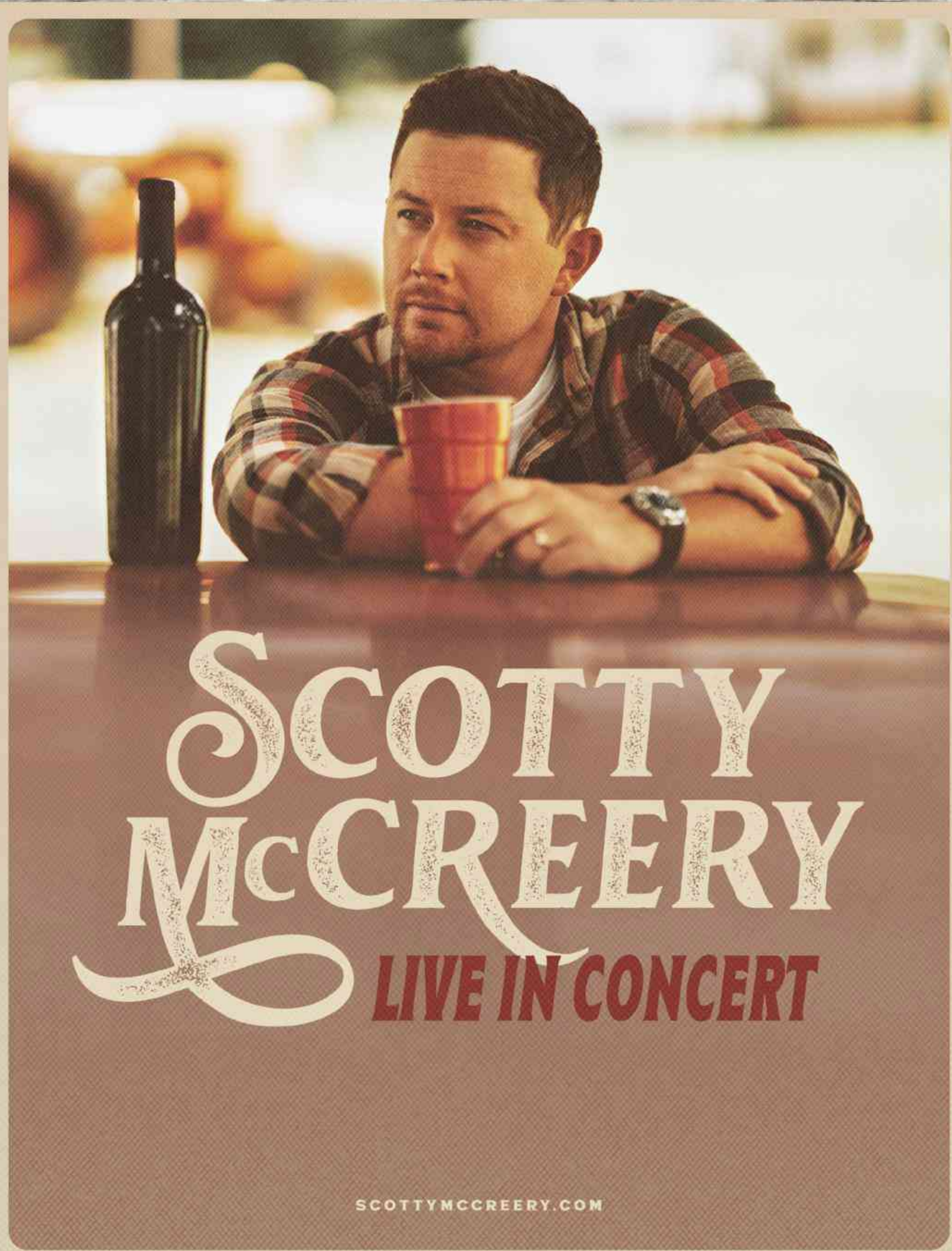
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Tim Baker/Herald

Calling all Swifties! Let's Sing Taylor, a live band experience that performs the hits of Taylor Swift, was at Eisenhower Park's Harry Chapin Lakeside Theatre on Aug. 22.

## 'Let's Sing Taylor' rocks Nassau County

Nassau County residents — and Long Islanders from all over — didn't have to travel far to listen to the music of Taylor Swift. The pop and musical icon has been trekking around the world for over a year on her Eras Tour, but in Eisenhower Park last week, fans got to experience her stardom from the cover group, Let's Sing Taylor.

Let's Sing Taylor is a live band experience that serves as a tribute to Swift's music. The group delivers lively and faithful covers of Swift's extensive catalog, providing fans — known as Swifties — with an immersive and communal experience celebrating her work. The group has been performing at various venues across the country, bringing the

magic of Swift's songs to life with energetic performances that resonate with her audience.

The event was part of Nassau County's summer concert series at the Harry Chapin Lakeside Theatre. Fans were decked in head-to-toe in outfits that reflected all of Swift's "eras" — meaning her different albums and musical styles throughout the years.

Whether fans were there to listen to her classic country hits, or dance along to her pop repertoire, there was something for everyone to enjoy. For more on the cover group, and to catch their next show close to him, visit LetsSingTaylor.com.

— Jordan Vallone



Tim Baker/Herald

Lucy Ghiuro, Ruby Baker, Violet Ghiuro, Claire Baker and Caroline Ghiuro had a blast at the show.



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# PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE  
INC. VILLAGE OF CEDARHURST  
LEGAL NOTICE  
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT the Board of Zoning Appeals of the Village of Cedarhurst will hold a public hearing on 09/05/2024 at 7 PM in the Village Hall, 200 Cedarhurst Avenue, Cedarhurst, NY for the following:  
Petition of MICHAEL ARI CUKIER  
Premises: 575 KENSINGTON PL Sec/Blk/Lot 39/270/18 Case # 2024-016  
DEMOLITION /CONSTRUCTION 1 FAMILY RES. INCLUDES 571,575 KENSINGTON & 574 GRANT  
Variance from: 265-36Height.  
No building shall be raised and no building or any part thereof shall be erected or altered in a Residential R-1 District which is higher than two-and-one-half stories above the curb level of the street. In no event shall the top of the ridge be more than 30 feet above the level of the curb. Houses located in the flood zone may be raised/altered to a height of 33 feet. (The ridge may not be more than 33 feet above the curb level.) A house in the flood zone may be raised or altered to three stories in height if the following are met: the lowest story is for limited storage, vehicle access or house entry; no windows are to be permitted in this story; flood vents as required.  
265-40 A. Front yards. A front yard of 25 feet shall be required.  
265-41 A. Side yards. A side yard is required along each side of a building.  
The side yards along the sides of a building used exclusively as a single-family dwelling shall have an aggregate width of no less than 16 feet. Neither side shall be less than six feet in width, except on corner plots, the side yard shall be six feet.  
265-42 Rear yards. A rear yard of not less than 25 feet shall be required on every plot.  
265-38 C. Building area. The total building area, including all accessory buildings, shall not exceed 30% of the lot area.  
265-42.1 A. Character of roofs. All buildings permitted by this chapter shall be erected with roofs other than those of the character and description known as "flat roofs." Such flat roofs are permitted for one-story extensions and appurtenances only, and are not to exceed 240 square feet in the aggregate.  
265-43 A. Permitted encroachments. In a front, rear and side yard, a roof eave may project not more than 12 inches into the required

setback.  
PARCELS INCLUDED IN THIS DENIAL  
571 Kensington Place 39/270/21,22  
575 Kensington Place 39/270/20,19,18,37  
574 Grant Place 39/270/13,14  
PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that all interested persons will have an opportunity to be heard at said hearing.  
Dated: August 28, 2024  
  
Cedarhurst, NY  
Benjamin Weinstock  
Mayor  
Salvatore Evola  
Village Clerk-Treasurer  
By Order of the Board Of Zoning Appeals  
148702  
  
To place a notice here call us at 516-569-4000 x232 or send an email to: legalnotices@liherald.com  
  
LEGAL NOTICE  
INC. VILLAGE OF CEDARHURST  
LEGAL NOTICE  
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT the Board of Zoning Appeals of the Village of Cedarhurst will hold a public hearing on 09/05/2024 at 7:00 PM in the Village Hall, 200 Cedarhurst Avenue, Cedarhurst, NY for the following:  
Petition of 235 OAKWOOD AVE LLC  
Premises: 235 OAKWOOD AVE  
Sec/Blk/Lot 39/260/318 Case # 2024-013  
INTERIOR/EXTERIOR RENOVATION  
Variance from: 265-38 C. Building area. The total building area, including all accessory buildings, shall not exceed 30% of the lot area.  
265-41 A. Side yards. A side yard is required along each side of a building.  
The side yards along the sides of a building used exclusively as a single-family dwelling shall have an aggregate width of no less than 16 feet. Neither side shall be less than six feet in width, except on corner plots, the side yard shall be six feet.  
PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that all interested persons will have an opportunity to be heard at said hearing.  
Dated: August 28, 2024  
  
Cedarhurst, NY  
Benjamin Weinstock  
Mayor  
Salvatore Evola  
Village Clerk-Treasurer  
By Order of the Board Of Zoning Appeals  
148701  
  
To place a notice here call us at 516-569-4000 x232 or send an email to: legalnotices@liherald.com  
  
LEGAL NOTICE  
The annual return of The Zichron Chaya Rochel Foundation for the calendar year ended December 31, 2023 is available at its principal office located at 240 Broadway, Lawrence, NY 11559 for inspection during regular business hours by any citizen who

requests it within 180 days hereof. Principal manager of the Foundation is Frank Berkowitz.  
148704  
  
LEGAL NOTICE  
INC. VILLAGE OF CEDARHURST  
LEGAL NOTICE  
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT the Board of Zoning Appeals of the Village of Cedarhurst will hold a public hearing on 09/05/2024 at 7 PM in the Village Hall, 200 Cedarhurst Avenue, Cedarhurst, NY for the following:  
Petition of YOCHANAN & CHANA GORDON  
Premises: 396 SUMMIT AVE  
Sec/Blk/Lot 39/423/21 Case # 2024-015  
TWO STORY ADDITION/INTERIOR RENOVATION  
Variance from: 265-38 C. Building area. The total building area, including all accessory buildings, shall not exceed 30% of the lot area.  
265-40 A. Front yards. A front yard of 25 feet shall be required.  
265-41 A. Side yards. A side yard is required along each side of a building.  
The side yards along the sides of a building used exclusively as a single-family dwelling shall have an aggregate width of no less than 16 feet. Neither side shall be less than six feet in width, except on corner plots, the side yard shall be six feet.  
\* Maximum building height 30' curb to ridge  
PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that all interested persons will have an opportunity to be heard at said hearing.  
Dated: August 28, 2024  
  
Cedarhurst, NY  
Benjamin Weinstock  
Mayor  
Salvatore Evola  
Village Clerk-Treasurer  
By Order of the Board Of Zoning Appeals  
148703  
  
LEGAL NOTICE  
INC. VILLAGE OF CEDARHURST  
LEGAL NOTICE  
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT the Board of Zoning Appeals of the Village of Cedarhurst will hold a public hearing on 09/05/2024 at 7:00 PM in the Village Hall, 200 Cedarhurst Avenue, Cedarhurst, NY for the following:  
Petition of CHAIM & FAYGE KASDAN  
Premises: 574 MONROE ST  
Sec/Blk/Lot 39/272/13 Case # 2024-012  
SECOND STORY ADDITION  
Variance from: 265-38 C. Building area. The total building area, including all accessory buildings, shall not exceed 30% of the lot area.  
265-40 A. Front yards. A front yard of 25 feet shall be required.

265-41 A. Side yards. A side yard is required along each side of a building.  
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Dated: August 28, 2024  
  
Cedarhurst, NY  
Benjamin Weinstock  
Mayor  
Salvatore Evola  
Village Clerk-Treasurer  
By Order of the Board Of Zoning Appeals  
148700  
  
Search for notices online at: [www.newyorkpublicnotices.com](https://www.newyorkpublicnotices.com)  
  
LEGAL NOTICE  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
BY THE BOARD OF APPEALS  
Pursuant to New York State Town Law Article 16, New York State Public Officers Law Article 7, and the Town of Hempstead Building Zone Ordinance, NOTICE is hereby given that the BOARD OF APPEALS of the Town of Hempstead will hold a public hearing in the Old Town Hall, 350 Front Street, Room 230, Second Floor, Hempstead, New York on 09/04/2024 at 2:00 P.M. to consider the following applications and appeals:  
  
THE FOLLOWING CASES WILL BE CALLED STARTING AT 2:00 P.M.  
575/24. WOODMERE - Heath & Michelle Zimmerman, Variances, lot area occupied & side yards aggregate, construct 2 1/2 story addition attached to dwelling., W/s Church Ave., 300' S/o Raleigh St., a/k/a 599 Church Ave.  
ALL PAPERS PERTAINING TO THE ABOVE HEARING ARE AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION AT THE BOARD OF APPEALS, TOWN HALL, 1 WASHINGTON STREET, HEMPSTEAD, NY 11550.  
This notice is only for new cases in Woodmere within Town of Hempstead jurisdiction. There are additional cases in different hamlets, towns and villages on the Board of Appeals calendar. The full calendar is available at <https://hempsteadny.gov/509/Board-of-Appeals>

# No injuries in North Woodmere Aug. 25 fire

No injuries were reported in a North Woodmere house fire just after 3 p.m. on Aug. 25.  
The Hewlett, Inwood, Lawrence-Cedarhurst, Meadowmere and Woodmere fire departments and several others responded to a fire at 626 Prescott Place along with the Arson Bomb Squad Detectives and the Nassau County Fire Marshal.  
The fire was extinguished and deemed non-suspicious, the Nassau County Police Department wrote in a news release.  
The investigation is ongoing.  
— Parker Schug  
  
HERALD  
The internet address of the website streaming for this meeting is <https://hempsteadny.gov/576/Live-Streaming-Video>  
Interested parties may appear at the above time and place. At the call of the Chairman, the Board will consider decisions on the foregoing and those on the Reserve Decision calendar and such other matters as may properly come before it.  
148642  
  
LEGAL NOTICE  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Board of Trustees of the Incorporated Village of Hewlett Harbor will hold a Public Hearing to consider the addition of Section 138 to the Hewlett Harbor Village Code which will create a Village Justice Court; and under SEQRA Regulations, to determine whether the proposed would constitute a significant negative impact on the environment; said Public Hearing will be held at 7:00 PM September 12, 2024 at the Village Hall, 449 Pepperidge Road, Hewlett Harbor, New York.  
All interested persons will be heard during the Public Hearing at the time and place aforementioned.  
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
NICOLE GIACOPELLI, VILLAGE CLERK HEWLETT HARBOR, NEW YORK  
DATED: 148694  
  
To place a notice here call us at 516-569-4000 x232 or send an email to: legalnotices@liherald.com



Courtesy Inwood Fire Department

The Hewlett, Inwood, Lawrence-Cedarhurst, Meadowmere and Woodmere fire departments and several others responded to a fire at 626 Prescott Place in North Woodmere on Aug. 25.

# PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE  
Invitation to Bidders  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
PENINSULA PUBLIC LIBRARY  
PUBLIC NOTICE: is hereby given for separate sealed bids for: HVAC Chiller Replacement at Peninsula Public Library. Bids will be received by the Library, on October 8, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. in the Bentley Meeting Room at the Peninsula Public Library, 280 Central Avenue, Lawrence, Ny 11559, and at said time and place publicly opened and read aloud.  
The Contract Documents may be examined at the Office of the Architect, BBS Architects, Landscape Architects and Engineers, P.C., 244 East Main Street, Patchogue New York, (631-475-0349); however the Contract Documents may only be obtained thru the Office of REV Plans, 28 Church Street-Suite 7, Warwick, New York 10990 (845-651-3845) beginning on September 9, 2024. Complete digital sets of Contract Documents shall be obtained online (with a free user account) as a download for a non-refundable fee of One-Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars at the following website: [bbs.biddlyhq.com](https://bbs.biddlyhq.com).  
Optionally, in lieu of digital copies, hard copies may be obtained directly from REV upon a deposit of One-Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars for each complete set. Checks for deposits shall be made payable to the LIBRARY, PENINSULA PUBLIC

LIBRARY and may be uncertified. All bid addenda will be transmitted to registered plan holders via email and will be available at the above referenced websites. Any bidder requiring documents to be shipped shall make arrangements with the printer and pay for all packaging and shipping costs. Plan holders who have obtained hard copies of the bid documents will need to make the determination if hard copies of the addenda are required for their use, and coordinate directly with the printer for hard copies of addenda to be issued. There will be no charge for registered plan holders to obtain hard copies of the bid addenda. The bid deposit for hard copies will be returned upon receipt of plans and specifications, in good condition, within thirty days after bid date, except for the lowest responsible bidder, whose check will be forfeited upon the award of the contract.  
The Contract will be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder or the proposals will be rejected within 45 days of the date of opening proposals. Bids shall be subject, however, to the discretionary right reserved by the Library to waive any informalities, accept or reject any alternatives, reject any proposals and to advertise for new proposals, if in its opinion the best interest of the Library will thereby be promoted.

Each bidder may not withdraw his bid within 45 days after the formal opening thereof. A bidder may withdraw his bid only in writing and prior to the bid opening date.  
By Order of:  
The Board of Trustees  
Peninsula Public Library  
Dated: August 16, 2024  
  
148698  
PUBLIC & LEGAL NOTICES  
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LEGAL NOTICE  
INCORPORATED VILLAGE OF HEWLETT HARBOR  
NOTICE OF MONTHLY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Hewlett Harbor will meet in both public and via Zoom on Thursday, September 12, 2024, at 7:00PM, Eastern Standard Time, for the purpose of holding the Village's regular monthly meeting.  
An agenda for the meeting will be made available to the public on the Village Website.  
All residents wishing to attend via Zoom can visit [www.hewlettharbor.gov](https://www.hewlettharbor.gov) for instructions. Residents wishing to speak via Zoom or in person must notify the Village Clerk in advance.  
Dated: Hewlett Harbor, New York  
August 23, 2024  
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF HEWLETT HARBOR  
NICOLE GIACOPELLI  
VILLAGE CLERK  
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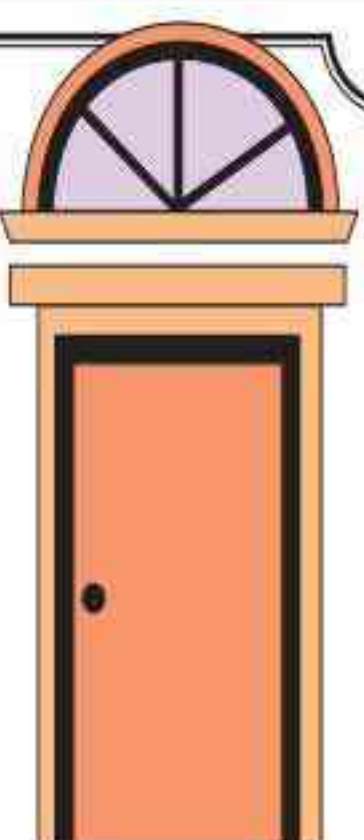
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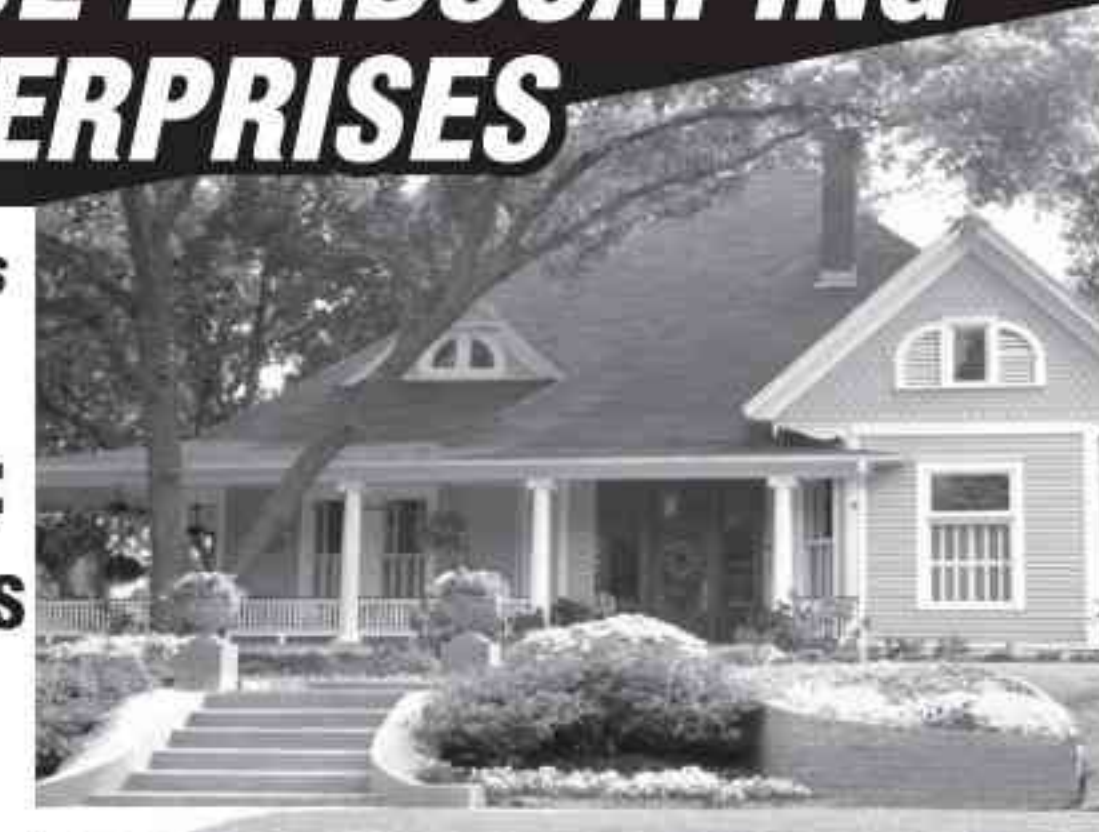
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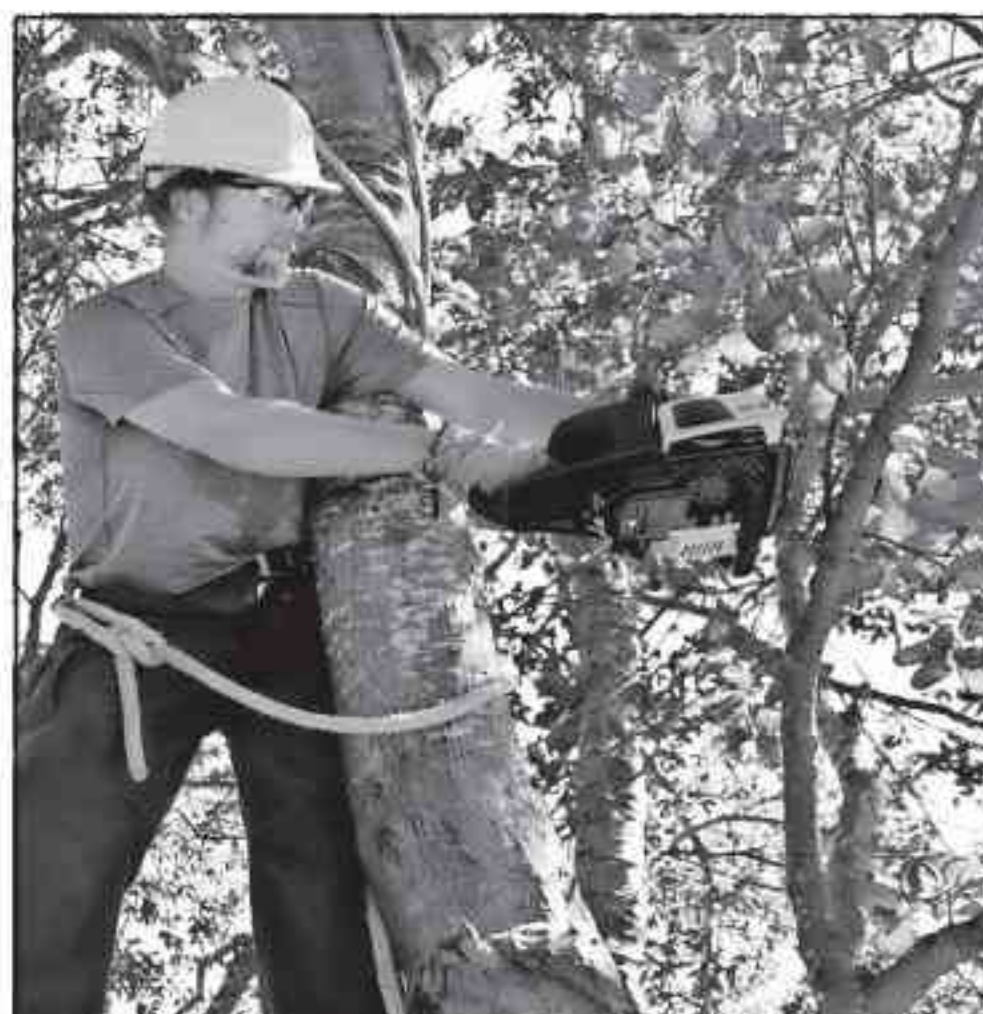
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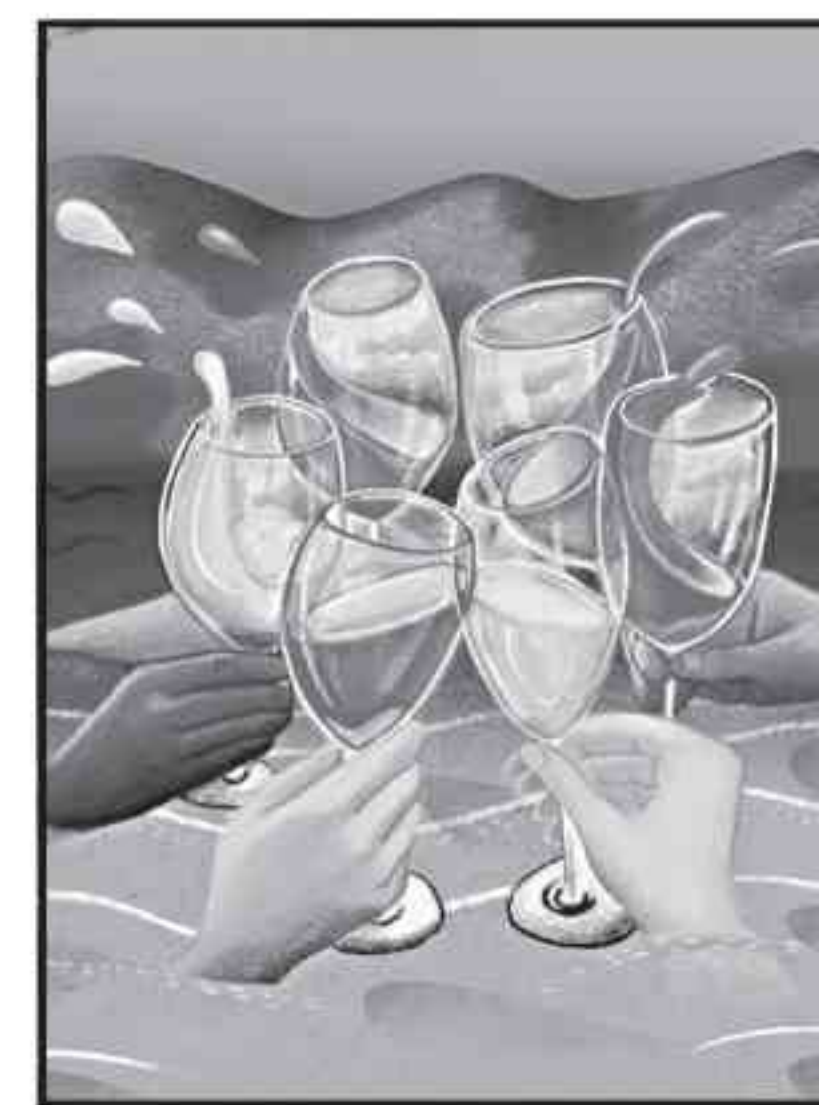
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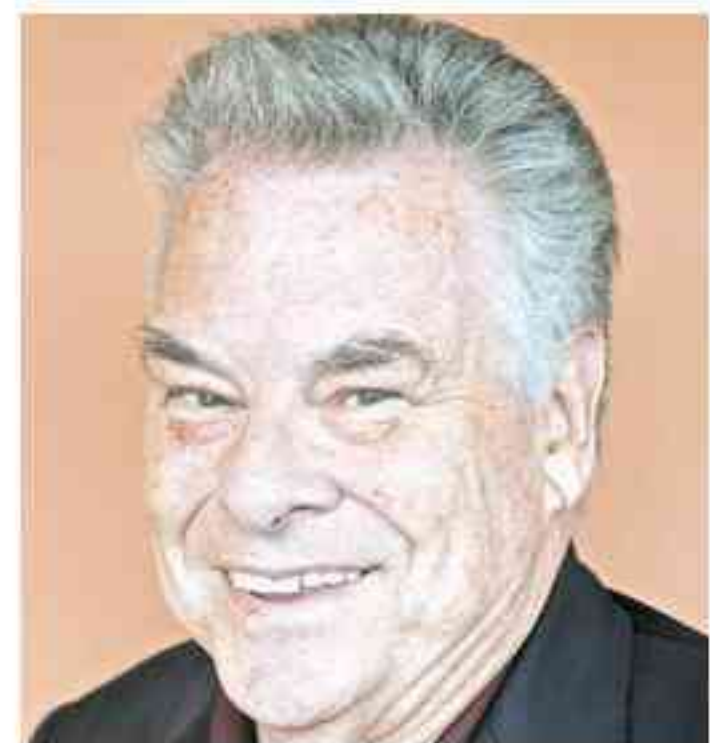


## OPINIONS

## Vance needs to get his immigrant story straight

**T**he Republican nominee for vice president, J.D. Vance, recently claimed that waves of Italian, Irish and German immigrants in the 19th century created “ethnic enclaves” and “inter-ethnic conflicts.”

Attempting to prove his point, Vance cited “Gangs of New York,” the 2002



**PETER KING**

Marin Scorsese film starring Daniel Day-Lewis, Leonardo DiCaprio and Cameron Diaz. I strongly believe that Vance was historically wrong and off the mark on all counts.

As a grandson of immigrants, let me make clear my own position

that the United States is a land of immigrants, and over the generations, immigrants have been the lifeblood of America, weaving their hard work and imagination into our national fabric. I just as strongly believe that immigration must be legal and regulated. A nation without borders soon will no

longer be a nation, which is why the Biden administration’s open-border policy has been so perilous.

Critical as I am of President Biden’s immigration policies, I consider Vance’s conclusions an uninformed interpretation of history and a gratuitous cheap shot at New York, which in the 19th and early 20th centuries was an exemplar of the benefits of immigration.

For starters, the main protagonist in “Gangs of New York” was Day-Lewis’s William “Bill the Butcher” Cutting, a killer who headed a nativist gang that attacked and terrorized Irish immigrants. Entirely the opposite of what Vance was claiming.

More telling than Vance’s misreading of the film he was relying on to make his misguided point was his myopic depiction of neighborhoods in which immigrants settled as “ethnic enclaves” rather than vital components of the stained glass window mosaic that made New York the world’s greatest city.

These so-called enclaves were in truth neighborhoods where immigrants could actually avoid conflict and attacks from anti-immigrant know-nothings, and adapt to their new world

while being with their “own kind.” This might not have been perfect, but it worked. As Sen. Pat Moynihan eloquently described in his classic work “Beyond the Melting Pot,” each generation would move forward from its enclave while maintaining its own identity and adding to the mosaic’s overall beauty. Depending on what skills and traditions were brought over

from the old country, some groups would advance further or in different fields than others.

For example, Irish Catholic immigrants had the advantage of speaking English, or at least our version of it. Plus, they were able to take their Catholic experience of having grown up in local parishes, under the overall tight control of bishops, and adapt it to New York’s politics, which they took over and controlled for decades.

But each of these groups, and the immigrants who followed, made enormous contributions to New York, and indeed to the nation, in industry, labor, education, law enforcement, the arts, the military, finance, sports, science, and so much more. All this resulted from an experiment that succeeded to an extent unequaled anywhere in the world.

Illegal immigration is dangerous, and must be stopped. It poses a definite terrorist threat and an economic danger to American citizens and lawful immigrants. But to make their case against it in this presidential campaign, Republicans should not use false, unintelligent, nativist arguments that besmirch the value and benefit that legal immigration brings to all Americans.

Just as Vance sees nobility and dignity in his self-described hillbilly heritage, so too should New Yorkers, and Long Islanders, be proud of our immigrant ancestry. That is what will make America great again.

*Peter King is a former congressman, and a former chair of the House Committee on Homeland Security. Comments? pking@liherald.com.*

## Congestion pricing may again haunt motorists

**L**ike the Ghost of Christmas Past, or Lazarus rising from the dead, congestion pricing, sidelined earlier this year by Gov. Kathy Hochul, is due to rear its ugly head sometime later this year. The question is, what form will it take, and will it be any better than the past version?



**JERRY KREMER**

With little regard for motorists or truckers, this year’s version was an arrogant and blind proposal destined to become an albatross around the necks of any drivers daring to venture into Manhattan below 60th street. The bosses of the Metropolitan

Transportation Authority, led by their arrogant chairman, Janno Lieber, decided in advance that the public would swallow whatever plan they decided on. To paper over the plan, the MTA conducted a series of sham hearings, and then told the world that on June 30, the MTA would start collecting the higher tolls — \$15 for cars and \$35 for trucks.

Hochul, acting on a number of complaints that the plan was ill-conceived, shocked the bureaucrats by pulling the plug at the last minute. Supporters of the plan, anxious for the MTA to start hauling in the cash, were shell-shocked that the governor would have the nerve to halt its efforts. Numerous groups asked for changes in the proposal, but even the fairest suggestions were brushed aside.

There is no doubt that some of the claims for exemptions were hoggish and undeserved, but some of the pleas were well-motivated and worthy of consideration. To judge what is fair or unfair, you only had to take a look at the London congestion program to decide how to charge drivers who enter the congestion zone. The tolls there are collected only up until 6 p.m., and drivers can enter the city toll-free after that. The MTA, apparently oblivious to the theater industry and Manhattan’s countless restaurants, was determined to collect tolls at all hours. To add to the woes of these businesses, the charges for trucks were destined to become a consumer tax on every item sold in any

retail establishment in the city.

How did the London authorities get all the business interests to support their plan? They did it the old-fashioned way. They met with every possible

interest group and got support from all meaningful voices. What did the MTA do to win over its opponents? Nothing. Assuming that it was the only important voice on the pricing plan, the agency went full speed ahead, ignoring any serious claim for relief from the tolls.

What role has the New York City government played in this bruising battle? Mayor Eric Adams, who is supposed to protect the city’s business interests, sided with the MTA by stepping back and doing nothing. Has the city played any role in the traffic mess that drivers face every day as they attempt to work their way through perpetual gridlock? Much of that mess is due to the city’s years and years of traffic-related mistakes. Four of the five boroughs are choked with bicycle lanes that were created wherever the traffic commissioners wanted them.

A typical traffic disaster is Lexington Avenue. There are bus lanes on the

**T**he MTA just went full speed ahead, unlike officials in London, who listened.

street that can barely handle double parking by trucks seeking to deliver products for commerce. School buses, and many of the thousands of Uber and Lyft cars trying to work their way through, face blockades from east-west traffic on the cross streets.

What has the MTA done to win over converts since Hochul stalled the plan? London officials worked hard to get unanimous support for their plan. But Lieber sits in his MTA ivory tower, content to let the politicians do the heavy lifting. Everybody agrees that with some honest bargaining, a fair toll plan could be agreed on that would lessen the burden on all sides.

Hochul has done her best to stall the plan, in the hope that some honest compromise can be reached. But once the State Legislature is forced to do something to keep trains and buses running, the lawmakers will pass legislation that will still make a lot of people very unhappy.

*Jerry Kremer was an assemblyman for 23 years, and chaired the Assembly’s Ways and Means Committee for 12 years. He now heads Empire Government Strategies, a business development and legislative strategy firm. Comments about this column? jkremer@liherald.com.*



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# HERALD EDITORIAL

## ‘After-school’ activities benefit those of all ages

As the new school year begins on Long Island, students are returning not only to classrooms, but also to a vibrant world of extracurricular activities. While we often associate clubs, sports teams and after-school programs with youth development, it’s crucial to recognize that the benefits of such involvement extend far beyond childhood and adolescence. In fact, adults in Nassau County and beyond have just as much to gain by getting involved in activities outside their daily routines.

For students, the advantages of participation in extracurriculars are well documented. A study published in the Journal of Youth Development found that students involved in such activities were 15 percent more likely to attend college, and had a graduation rate 12 percent higher than their uninvolved peers. Moreover, these students reported higher levels of self-esteem and lower rates of depression and anxiety.

Local success stories abound. Look no further than all of the Regeneron Science Talent Search finalists whose journeys begin in our local schools’ robotics and science research clubs. Or the many All-American student-athletes who lead

our high school teams to victory.

But the benefits of extracurricular involvement aren’t limited to the young. Adults who take part in community organizations, hobby groups or sports leagues often report improved mental health, expanded social networks, and a greater sense of purpose. According to study in the Journal of Happiness Studies, adults who regularly engaged in group activities reported a 25 percent increase in life satisfaction compared with those who did not.

Nassau County offers a wealth of opportunities for adult involvement. Whether it’s signing up for a book club at the local library, joining a pickleball league in your neighborhood Nassau County park, or volunteering at the North Shore Animal League, there’s an avocation for everyone.

For those who are serious about physical activity, organizations like the Long Island Road Runners Club promote fitness and camaraderie among members of all ages and skill levels. Meanwhile, volunteering with groups such as Island Harvest offers a chance to give back to the community while forging meaningful connections.

The value of these activities extends

beyond personal fulfillment. A report by the Corporation for National and Community Service, also known as Americorps, found that volunteers have a 27 percent higher likelihood of finding employment after being out of work compared with non-volunteers. This statistic underscores the networking and skill-building aspects of extracurricular involvement.

In today’s fast-paced world, it’s easy to become consumed by work and daily responsibilities. However, engaging in extracurricular activities provides a crucial balance, offering opportunities for personal growth, stress relief, and community connection. As we watch our children discover new passions and develop important life skills through their after-school pursuits, let’s take inspiration from their enthusiasm and curiosity.

This fall, as Long Island’s students dive into a new year of learning both in and out of the classroom, let’s make it a community-wide initiative to explore the rich tapestry of extracurricular activities available to those of all ages. By doing so, we not only enrich our own lives, but also contribute to the vibrancy and interconnectedness of our communities.

## LETTERS

### Fossil fuels, offshore wind and the need for climate action

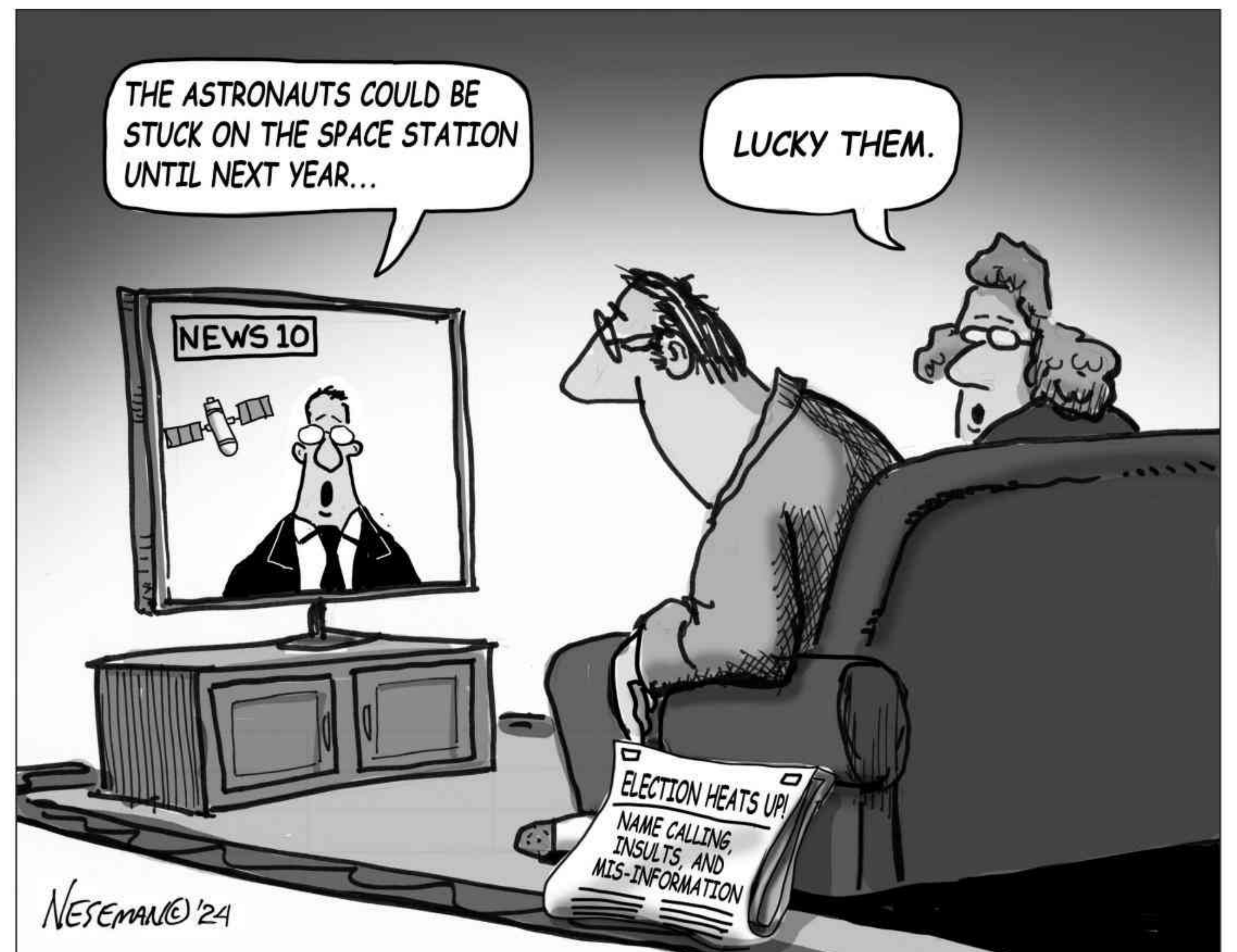
To the Editor:

Re “To beat the heat on Long Island, we must fight fossil fuels,” by Lauren Krueger, and “Offshore wind is the answer for Long Island,” by Melissa Parrott: These two opinion pieces accurately pinpoint the negative role played by fossil fuel companies in combating climate change, and stress the need to rapidly move toward 100 percent renewable energy.

As Krueger shows, the fossil fuel companies have lied to the public for years about the science and dangers of climate change — caused principally by their own products — and continue to spread misinformation and fear about critical renewable energy projects, such as offshore wind. And Parrott makes the point that offshore wind, an inexhaustible, renewable, affordable energy resource available off our South Shore, will go a long way toward meeting our energy needs, safely and in an environmentally friendly manner. Offshore wind is key to our energy future, and to saving our planet.

Unfortunately, there is currently insufficient action to halt the climate chaos we are now experiencing. We are running out of time. The bottom line is this: As the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has stated, to halt the rapid global heating we are now experiencing will require deep changes in the basic social, economic and political institutions we currently have.

One obvious and necessary change is to limit the



overriding power of the very industry that is now directly causing the climate crisis. We have the technology to transition away from fossil fuels, but our struggle will not be easy.

JIM BROWN  
Conservation co-chair,  
South Shore Audubon Society  
Island Park

### Let’s take a long look at Kamala Harris

To the Editor:

Re “Momalas for Kamala, a thread to unite us,” by Randi Kreiss (Aug. 8-14): As of this writing, Vice President Kamala Harris still has not met with the



## OPINIONS

## It's time to re-evaluate New York's climate goals

**A**s Long Islanders are paying more and more for their utilities, it is far past time for more policymakers to ask if the aspirational goals and timelines of the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act are realistic, or if we need to correct course.



**PATRICIA  
CANZONERI-FITZPATRICK**

To be sure, I want to leave our future generations with a cleaner environment. I also, however, want to leave them a more reliable and more affordable energy grid. I want New York to be a place where our children can grow up and afford to stay,

but while the state seeks to create “greener” pastures, the future isn’t looking more affordable.

It doesn’t need to be this way, though. We can right the ship while still pursuing a cleaner, more reliable and more affordable grid. Rather than focusing on rushed, top-down mandates from the

state, we can focus on realistic proposals that prioritize incentivizing this transition by lowering costs for consumers. My colleagues and I in the State Senate Republican conference have done precisely that with the Creating Lasting Affordable Energy for New York legislative package, which would prioritize clean, reliable and affordable energy.

The first proposal would delay implementation of the CLCPA by 10 years, which would allow policymakers to better formulate a plan to transition to clean energy without burdening ratepayers. It would also allow for greater flexibility in adjusting time frames to ensure that the grid is both affordable and, most important, reliable, and able to handle the additional demands of a society powered solely by clean energy. Given the current uncertainties about whether our grid can manage the projected power load demands, this delay is crucial.

Another proposal would prevent power-generation facilities from being

closed before a new one comes online. This common-sense practice is necessary for the revamping of our grid to truly be a responsible transition. For instance, the Indian Point nuclear

power facility generated roughly a quarter of New York City’s energy needs — and of note for residents of Nassau County’s South Shore, approximately the same amount of power as the proposed Empire Wind projects — before it was shut down prematurely. Our legislative package would require a feasibility study of bringing Indian Point back online to help meet the city’s clean-energy

needs.

Given the substantial taxes that the state already collects, this transition shouldn’t be shouldered by everyday ratepayers. Instead, our Ratepayer Relief Act would determine the cost of CLCPA mandates and reimburse ratepayers with tax credits, as well as cutting taxes, to save ratepayers more than \$100 million.

My proposal within this package

would offer homeowners an additional \$5,000 tax credit to install solar, as well as a new solar School Tax Relief, or STAR, credit for communities that opt to build small to mid-sized solar projects. Further, my bill would re-establish, and strengthen, local control of the siting of major renewable energy projects, something that seems to be of little importance to Gov. Kathy Hochul.

These proposals, in concert with others we have included, such as lowering costs for hydroelectric plants and bolstering investments in alternative sources of clean energy, like green hydrogen, will help New York make the transition to a cleaner grid without sacrificing reliability or further burdening ratepayers. Albany cannot continue to expect New Yorkers to keep paying more and more, or else they will continue to flee our state’s high costs. If we continue that trend rather than implementing these common-sense initiatives, then perhaps New York’s ultimate path to eliminating emissions will be to ask the last person who leaves to turn the lights off as they go.

*Patricia Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick represents the 9th Senate District.*

**O**ur energy must not only be cleaner, but also more reliable and affordable.

## LETTERS

press. The Democratic National Convention last week continued the good-feeling tour — and the evasion. The sanitizing of her positions on the issues, in contrast to her previous stances, and the avoidance of her failure as the “border czar” will have additional shelf life.

Her reputation as an abuser of her staff and the high turnover rate among them, as well as her unwillingness to do the work required as V.P., isn’t the thread the mainstream media is willing to look at. I can only hope the upcoming debate will focus on the issues and her record. It isn’t courage that Donald Trump needs to debate her, but rather the self-discipline to stay away from personal attacks that can only undermine him and cause an unnecessary distraction.

TONY GIAMETTA  
*Oceanside*

## Thanks, Peter King, for reflections on Pete Rose

To the Editor:

I read with deep interest Peter King’s column “Rethinking the embarrassing saga of Pete Rose (Aug. 15-21). I took particular interest in King’s sharing of his views and questions with his son and grandson.

It seems to me that the complete truth of Rose’s behavior requires both an investigative exercise and collabora-

tive testimony from others to support his claims. Essentially, nothing he says should be believed unless the facts beyond his statements can be gleaned, and others can offer evidence in support of his behavior. Because his own previous testimony is both incomplete and untruthful, any decisions on whether to include him in the Hall of Fame must serve the public first and his request last.

The years, and now decades, of Rose’s lying about betting on baseball — and on the Reds in particular — bring up the need to ask other Hall of Fame members their thoughts on his potential induction, too. In particular, Johnny Bench, a colleague of Rose’s on the Reds, says no. Why? Because as Bench states, what rules or pledges of honesty about gambling should our children learn from Rose?

So far, his decades-long behavior suggests there are no pledges from him that we should believe are examples of his character or integrity. When it comes to teaching children, as Bench states, the entire acceptance test is based on character and truthfulness.

Not accepting Rose into the Hall of Fame teaches our children that dishonesty can never be rewarded. Our society must stand for something, and recognize integrity and character.

Pete Rose is an undesirable candidate for the Hall of Fame. Despite his performance as a player, he is unqualified.

JOE ABATE  
*Island Park*

## FRAMEWORK by Nicholas Fowler



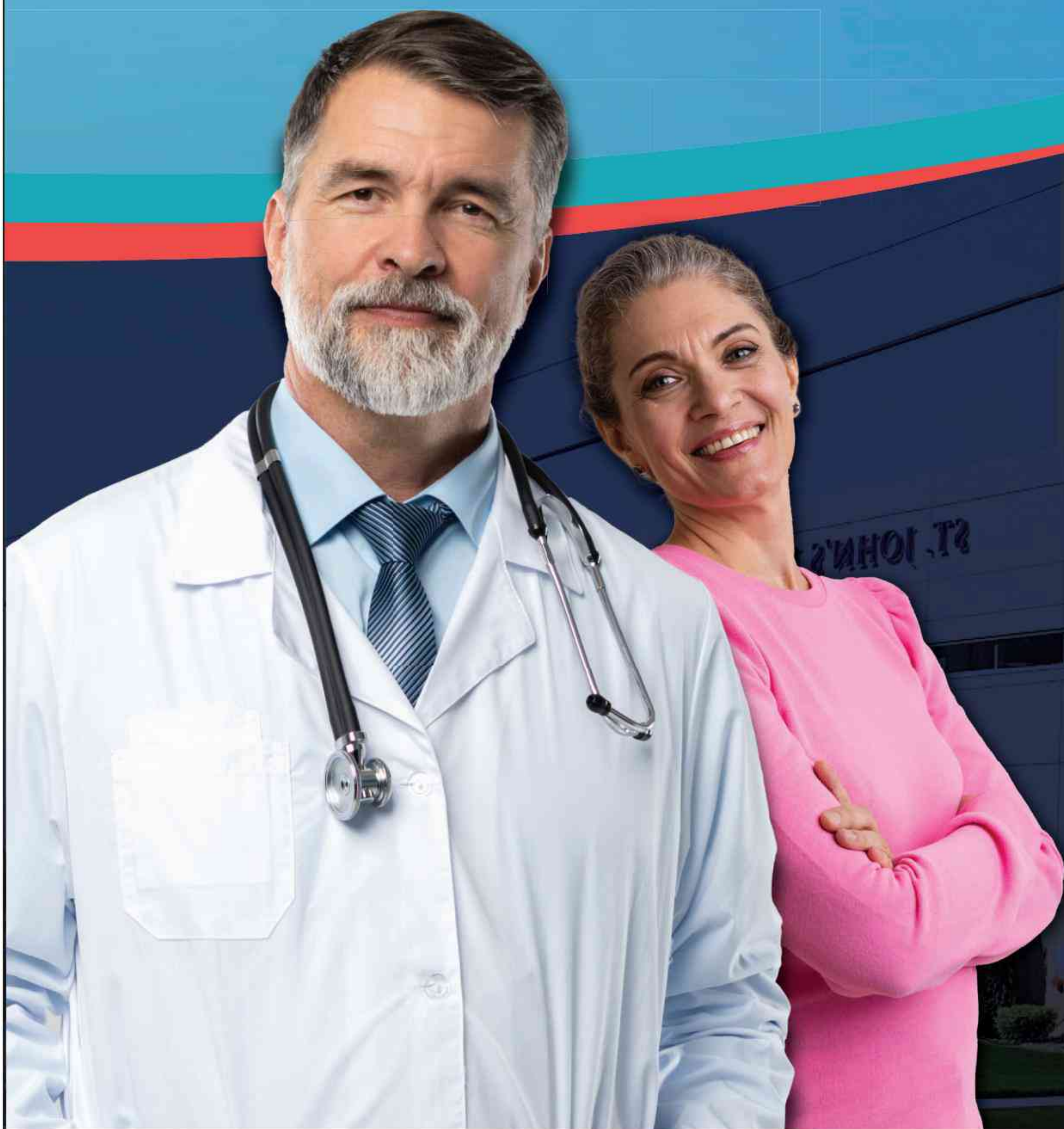
What more fitting place to end the summer than at The End? — Montauk Lighthouse



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